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Does any method really work? A GP finds out, **p15**



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20P

THE TIMES

No. 65,150 THURSDAY DECEMBER 29 1994

Profit put before safety, says Labour

Storm on cut in checks for gas pipe leaks

BY JONATHAN PRYNN AND PHILIP BASSETT

BRITISH GAS was plunged into fresh controversy yesterday after it emerged that it is to cut from £9 million to £1 million the amount it spends annually on checking for gas leaks.

The move provoked a storm of protest from the Gas Consumers Council, trade unions and Labour, whose spokesman, Nigel Griffiths, claimed that the company was putting profits before public safety.

The cut is the latest in a string of public relations setbacks for British Gas since November, when it disclosed that its chief executive, Cedric Brown, was receiving a 75 per cent rise in salary to £475,000. It then emerged that showroom staff are to have their pay reduced.

The move to reduce the amount spent on systematic checks of the pipeline system was revealed by the Labour Party after it obtained a leaked memorandum from TransCo, the British Gas division responsible for the pipeline system. The Opposition plans to table amendments to the Government's new gas Bill next month giving the Government the final say over any future proposed changes to safety checks.

But British Gas defended its decision last night, on the ground that replacement of the pipeline system meant that fewer checks were needed. The policy of immediate response to any leak was unchanged.

The TransCo note warns regional gas offices to expect "safety issues" being raised as a result of the decision. TransCo said it had decided to cut the spending after an 18-month review; it would not mean a reduction in safety.



Brown: another setback after row over his pay

Harry Moulson, the company's managing director, said that TransCo had been spending between £500 million and £800 million a year replacing pipelines over the past 10 years and the entire system would have been replaced within two years. "Prevention is better than cure," he said.

Mr Griffiths, Labour's Shadow Consumer Minister, condemned the way in which the cut was "planned and implemented in secret". He demanded a freeze on the cuts pending an enquiry from Tim Eggar, the Energy Minister. "British Gas used to be a byword for safety," he said. "The memo shows this philosophy is being abandoned."

Ian Powe, director of the Gas Consumers Council, said it was difficult to believe that such cuts could be made "on a project which is vital to the safety of these pipelines" without safety being risked.

The council called on the Health and Safety Executive to investigate the effect of the cuts.

British Gas's embarrassment was compounded by the separate revelation that it plans to cut the time engineers will spend mending faults and ensuring that supplies are fully restored. Dave Stirzaker, head of gas at at the trade union Unison, said the proposals "reflects the new hard-hearted commercialisation of British Gas."

Ofgas, the gas industry regulator, sought assurances from British Gas yesterday that in making the changes it would continue to comply with agreed safety standards.

The company said there would be no difference to its commitment to safety standards. These require it to turn out within one hour to deal with any uncontrollable gas supply leak, and two hours to a leak which can be switched off, and to offer certain customers - including the elderly and disabled - a safety check of all their gas equipment within 28 days of connection.

☐ There have been three gas-related incidents over the holiday period. Last Thursday, three members of a family escaped when their cottage at Keynsham, Avon, was destroyed in agas explosion. On Christmas Eve five families were evacuated from their homes in Bath because of a major leak, and on Christmas Day Peter Fox, 25, and Melanie Downes, 23, were found dead in front of a gas fire at their home in Portslade, East Sussex.

BARRY BACHELOR/PA



Hereford Cathedral towers above flooded rugby pitches after heavy rains yesterday

Flood alert as swollen rivers threaten towns and traffic

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

FLOOD alerts went out last night as rivers in rain-lashed areas of England and Wales rose to dangerous levels. More flooding was predicted for today as torrential rain and strong winds were due to sweep the British Isles.

In the West Midlands, the National River Authority issued more than 25 flood warnings yesterday. In Staffordshire, a canal at Aston, Stone, flooded and amber alerts were issued for the Severn at Shrewsbury and Welshpool.

The Bristol Channel was swept by violent gales which brought havoc to the roads and renewed police warnings to drivers. The £100 million section of the M4 over the Neath at Briton Ferry, opened only two weeks ago, was closed to traffic because of dangerous gusts.

Emergency services were on standby in South Wales, battered by gales and deluged by more than seven inches of rain since Boxing Day, as they faced the worst flooding since December 1992. With more heavy rain and gales of up to 70 mph forecast, defences in several town centres, including Pontypridd and Bridgend in Mid Glamorgan, awaited their biggest test for two years.

River authority staff at emergency control centres were holding a 24-hour vigil at infamous flood spots and maximum alert "red warnings" remained in force on the rivers Taff, Ely, Rhondda, Ogmore, Llynfi and Ewenny as well as the Wye and Dyfi in Mid Wales.

There was a narrow escape yesterday for John Gordon, 46, an officer of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, after the river Torridge burst its banks in Devon. He was off duty on Tuesday evening when he was called to Bridge Farm in Sheepwash, near Hatherleigh, to help save 80 sheep stranded in fields by rising flood water. The village of Sheepwash is believed locally to derive its Anglo-Saxon name from a history of extensive flooding, frequently leaving animals trapped.

Mr Gordon, a field chief inspector, was in a rescue party of five RSPCA officers and two fire crews. They decided to herd the sheep into two boats and ferry them to dry land. With torches to guide them through the night, the men, wearing lifejackets,



Gordon: battle to save marooned sheep

braved severe gusts to carry the boats over flooded fields and through gates to where the animals were stranded.

"The water was waist-high when we got there," said Mr Gordon from his hospital bed yesterday. "We waded out to the sheep. We managed to get somesheep in the boat but then some of the sheep panicked and started running towards the flooded river. We tried to cut them off. It was then that it happened." Mr Gordon fell into the river and was swept 30 yards down stream. "Inspector John Nor-

Continued on page 2, col 5

Forecast, page 20

Fanny Cradock, TV's star cook, dies at 85

BY ALAN HAMILTON

COOKERY-as-entertainment has lost one of its earliest and greatest stars with the death in an East Sussex nursing home of Fanny Cradock at the age of 85 after a short illness.

With her long-suffering husband Johnnie, who died in 1987, Mrs Cradock attracted an enormous television following in the late Fifties and Sixties by cooking for the camera dressed in pink satin ballgown, fox fur and diamonds. A larger-than-life impossibly rude English eccentric, she did for the word "soufflé" what Dame Edith Evans did for "handbag".

Her agent and long-standing friend Rosemary Bromley said yesterday: "You either loved or hated her. She could be preposterous in restaurants; she was famously rude and could not stand crawlers. To say she was not bland would be an understatement, but she was a marvellous cook and a consummate friend."

Fanny — real name Phyllis — and her husband made their first television appearance as a team in February 1955; they wrote hundreds of newspaper columns, and more than 100 books.

Her cooking style was that of reckless abandon, tossing eggs and butter willy-nilly into frying pans while sipping champagne, yet ending up with elaborate confections.

John Diamond, page 14

Obituary, page 19

Day-long Russian attack gives lie to pledge to 'liberate' Grozny

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN GROZNY AND ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW



RUSSIAN forces launched a sustained day-long attack against the besieged city of Grozny yesterday, pounding Chechen positions on several fronts and advancing to within five miles of the breakaway capital's centre.

The attack came as one of President Yeltsin's closest advisers said that Russian troops would drive out the Chechen fighters. Oleg Lobov, Secretary of the National Security Council, said: "Grozny will be freed from illegal armed forces, mercenaries and criminals. It will not be stormed, but it will be liberated . . . The liberation of Grozny will be carried out step by step, district by district. If there is strong resistance, it will take a little more time. But we don't want to spend months."

In one of the heaviest days of fighting since Russian troops entered Chechenia more than two weeks ago, heavy clashes could be heard to north, east and west. The Russian Government press service said its armed forces had begun "real actions to move towards the outskirts of Grozny".

The most sustained battle was in the suburb of Khankala, about five miles to the south-west, where lightly armed Chechen ground forces halted a large Russian armoured column. Russian aircraft destroyed an orphanage near the centre of Grozny, amazingly without injury to children or staff. The attack came barely a day after President Yeltsin said that civilian targets would not be hit.

On the front line we saw small squads of Chechens, mainly with rifles and anti-tank weapons, weaving through a deserted housing estate to reinforce forward positions a few hundred yards away. Despite constant air and artillery bombardment, they seemed well organised and highly motivated.

"They gained about three kilometres today, but they are exposed and in no position to move any further," said Shamil Besaev, a Chechen commander. "Do not worry, they will never take Grozny." Last night there were reports that Chechen forces had shot down two Russian aircraftsouth of Grozny.

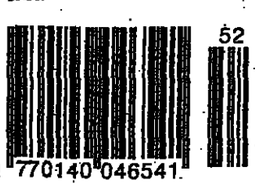
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British mandarins are high-flyers in pay league

BY MICHAEL DYNES, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

SENIOR British civil servants are paid more than almost all their counterparts around the world, according to figures submitted to ministers yesterday. Compiled by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the figures show that only top officials in the Japanese bureaucracy beat Whitehall's high-flyers.

The figures, based on 1990 pay rates, show that British permanent secretaries earned more than £80,000, just below their equivalents in Tokyo. Germany's top officials were paid about £64,000, those in America some £57,000, and the senior echelon in France £44,000.

The gap will widen with the introduction in the New Year of a "super pay league". Graham Mather, president of the European Policy Forum, says in a 12-page report to David Hunt, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster: "During the 1980s, the OECD figures show, British permanent secretaries were the only top civil servants in the world whose pay rose by more than the rise in national output . . . The dramatic pay rises which caused this increase came during Mrs Thatcher's prime ministership in 1985-86. They are part of an outdated fixed-pay system which is overdue for replacement."

The survey dealt only with senior officials. Middle and lower-ranking civil servants elsewhere are generally paid more than their British counterparts.

Mr Mather, who has campaigned for senior Whitehall policy makers to be made publicly accountable, says: "These figures end the myth that top British officials are paid less than overseas, and suggest that it is time to reassess their performance criteria."

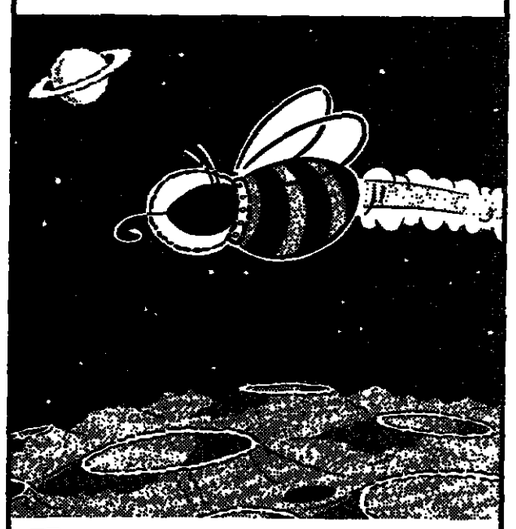
While highly paid top officials are beginning to bear some of the risks of failure in a similar way to private-sector executives, they "continue to be appointed, paid and removed in a closed and secretive system". Mr Mather continues: "This could be made worse if special top-pay arrangements are introduced for the Cabinet Secretary and all other permanent secretaries from April." Under the proposal, "the level of the super pay band would be set by the Senior Salaries Review Board, and a remuneration committee would fix the positions of individual permanent secretaries within the super league".

Unless ministers wish to face an embarrassing pay rise for the most senior civil servants from April, Mr Mather says, "they will rethink this position. It is already clear that top officials are not underpaid on international comparisons".

In contrast, British MPs' salaries are among the lowest in Europe, even with a recent increase that takes pay to £33,169. MPs from Italy, France, Germany, Belgium and The Netherlands are all paid more. European Commissioners, however, are the highest paid of all, with salaries between £100,000 and £140,000.



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Demand for university places goes up by 2%

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

A RISE in applications for university places has confounded fears that student poverty and poor job prospects for graduates had ended the ten-year boom in demand for higher education.

Enrolments in higher education dropped slightly this autumn, with universities facing financial penalties if they breached the Government's recruitment guidelines. Admissions tutors braced themselves for a collapse in the market this year.

When the closing date passed this month, however, the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service had received 347,700 applications, an increase of 2 per cent on last year. When late applications are included, UCAS expects the level of competition for places to be almost unchanged for the third successive year.

Tony Higgins, chief executive of UCAS, said: "The position is a lot better than most people expected. Everybody has been saying that we have reached the top and are going downhill but there is still plenty of demand for higher education."

Preliminary analysis of this year's applications suggests that the growing number of students taking new General National Vocational Qualifications may be responsible for the rise. Mr Higgins said: "A lot of applicants taking GNVQs seem to be people who would not normally have gone on to higher education, and tens of thousands more will finish courses in the coming year."

The steady rate of applications will lessen the pressure for an early reform of university admissions. But a switch in students' tactics may leave colleges of higher education and some new universities struggling to fill their places.

Last year many applicants tried to second-guess the new admissions system by including a "banker" institution with low entry requirements in their two final choices. Now most appear to be applying to universities they genuinely want to attend, relying on the post A-level "clearing" process for a place if all else fails. Mr Higgins said: "Schools have seen that there is no need to panic because virtually everybody finds a place in clearing."

☐ Plans for a performance-related pay scheme for head teachers and deputies were condemned yesterday as unworkable, divisive and doomed to failure. The National Association of Head Teachers said proposals from the School Teachers' Pay Review Body were flawed because they failed to put sufficient cash at stake to motivate senior staff.

'Cut-throat' competition for students

ONE further education college in five could close over the next three years, management consultants claim today in a report that predicts cut-throat competition for students (John O'Leary writes).

Martin Davies, director of KPMG Peat Marwick's National Education Service, says at least 100 colleges may not survive the rapid changes under way in the fastest-growing sector of education. The result is expected to be larger colleges producing better results.

The 500 colleges are planning to take 20 per cent more students over the next three years, with an enrolment of 800,000 by 1997. Under a funding system introduced this year, the viability of sixth-form and further education colleges depends on the number of students recruited.

Up to a quarter of colleges are expected to register deficits next year. The Colleges Employers Forum is already advising 122 institutions on redundancy programmes.

HUW EVANS



Yukito Matsuda and Satomi Higashi wore traditional dress when their marriage was blessed in Wales. They will honeymoon in Germany

Japanese blessed in Wales

A JAPANESE couple who wanted to marry in a Welsh chapel found the reality lived up to their dream yesterday, and the weather also lived up to expectations. Yukito Matsuda, 32, and Satomi Higashi, 25, had their marriage blessed at St Faith and St Tyfei Church in Lamphey, Dyfed, in the midst of heavy rain and gales.

Mr Matsuda, who works at Hiroshima city hall, said: "We have had a joke about the British weather ever since we came, but the rain does not matter when everyone is so nice. We were surprised at how flat everything looks here: in Japan we have more hills and mountains than Wales."

The couple had a simple register office wedding in Japan before flying to Britain for a blessing at the 150-year-old church. Their families accompanied them, and the trip has cost about £20,000.

They decided on a wedding in Wales after becoming friendly with Caroline Lloyd, who teaches English in Hiroshima. Ms Lloyd said: "They have been treated to a warm and friendly welcome which makes up for the awful weather." The couple, who speak only a little English and not a word of Welsh, will be honeymooning in Hamburg because Yukito speaks German.

Holiday workers head for the sales

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT AND VICTORIA WALKER

OFFICES and factories across Britain remained empty yesterday as millions of workers went shopping. Out of town shopping malls from the North East to the South West were packed with bargain hunters. There was barely room to move in many pedestrianised high streets.

By mid-morning, even the biggest car parking areas in many towns, cities and malls were so full that motoring organisations were warning of jams on the approach roads.

Thousands of factories took the opportunity to shut down for Christmas week. "Many people now have at least five weeks' holiday a year and they are entitled to take it when they can," a CBI spokesman said. "Manufacturers have structured their production schedules well in advance and for many it is better to shut down for a week rather than to keep starting and stopping."

Most big building sites were also silent and, with delivery lorries missing from the roads, traffic was generally light. "The rush hour certainly did not happen," AA Roadwatch said. "It was more like a quiet Saturday and everyone seemed to stay in bed later. The main problems were on the approach roads to the big shopping centres such as Brent Cross and the car parks at out of town centres."

Stores reported that winter clothing was proving the most popular sale item.

Travel news, page 29

Labour to host conference on business in Europe

BY JONATHAN PRYNN
POLITICAL REPORTER

LABOUR is taking its campaign to forge closer links with industry to the Continent with a £500-a-head conference and dinner in Brussels to be attended by hundreds of British business executives.

Labour claims that the conference on January 10, which will end with an address by Tony Blair, is the first to be held abroad by a British political party. The names of those attending have not been released but most of Britain's best-known companies are thought to be represented, including some never seen on Labour guest lists before, according to one organiser.

The half-day Brussels conference, which will be attended by 150 senior business executives and followed by dinner for 325, is sold out and likely to prove highly profitable with all surplus proceeds going to Labour Party funds. Kingfisher, the Woolworth's retail group, is sponsoring the opening reception and Tesco and Whitbread the wine served at the dinner.

During the afternoon, participants will break up into seven seminar groups covering various industrial and political topics, each chaired by a senior Labour MEP. The event will mark a new stage in the warming relations between Labour and the private sector. With many firms abandoning their support for the Tories, company directors are increasingly receptive to Labour overtures. A record number of companies took space at the exhibition attached to the Blackpool party conference and next year's exhibition was sold out in minutes.

Labour sources said it was in the interests of any company operating in the European Union to build a relationship with the party dominating British representation in the European Parliament. Those attending will have the chance to speak to John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, Robin Cook, Shadow Foreign Secretary, and Gordon Brown, Shadow Chancellor, as well as the Labour leader.



Green: Briton who leads Strasbourg's Socialists

At June's elections to the European Parliament, Labour took 62 of Britain's 81 seats, making it one of the biggest single-party groups in Strasbourg. Its MEPs chair three of the parliament's most influential committees. Pauline Green, MEP for London North, is leader of the dominant Socialist Group in the European Parliament and one of the most powerful politicians at Strasbourg.

☐ A total of 10.8 million people — 39 per cent of the workforce — were unemployed at some point between 1990 and this year, Harriet Harman, Shadow Employment Secretary, said yesterday. According to previously unpublished figures obtained by Labour through the Commons library, the proportion of people experiencing unemployment was highest among men, 6.9 million of whom were unemployed at some point in the past five years — representing 44 per cent of the male workforce.

Doctors rule out meningitis fears

Doctors have ruled out meningitis as the cause of death in the case of girl aged six who complained of a headache and stomach pains on Boxing Day and died hours later. They are still trying to find out what killed Toni Carter, from Yardley, Birmingham.

Health officials in Brighton have traced the last classmate of Emma Harris, 5, who died from a fatal strain of meningitis on Boxing Day. Alexandra Yates remains seriously ill.

Concorde delay

British Airways has been given another 12 months to perfect an anti-collision device for use on Concorde. The airline said it could produce a viable model of the device, known as TCAS, before the end of next year. All aircraft using US air space are required to have the device.

Victims to sue

Survivors and families of the victims of a helicopter crash off a North Sea oil platform in 1992 have been granted leave by a Texan court to sue the oil company Shell for compensation in the United States. Eleven people died in the Cormorant Alpha crash and six survived.

Gun was fake

An examination by forensic scientists confirmed that the gun fired at West Yorkshire police by a quick-draw enthusiast was a replica that fired only blanks. Robert Dixon, 44, of Golcar, near Huddersfield, was shot dead by police marksmen on Tuesday.

Lottery winner

The latest winner of the National Lottery jackpot has collected a cheque for £7.8 million. The competition organisers said the winner had chosen to remain anonymous. They refused to reveal whether it was a man, a woman or a syndicate.

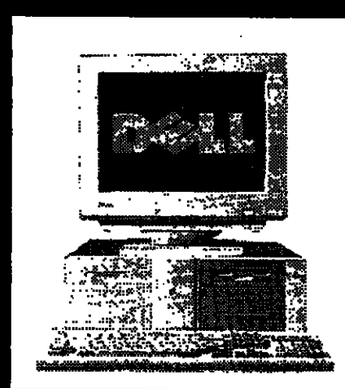
Crash tragedy

A fireman called to a car crash in Anglesey found his brother killed and another brother critically injured. Philip Murphy, 32, was led from the scene in a state of shock. Nicholas Murphy, 35, died and his brother David, 23, was seriously ill in hospital last night.

Unwanted pets

More than 40 unwanted strays were handed in yesterday at Battersea Dogs' Home in south London. Staff said a total of 55 had been collected since Christmas Day. However, the number of abandoned Christmas pets is falling annually.

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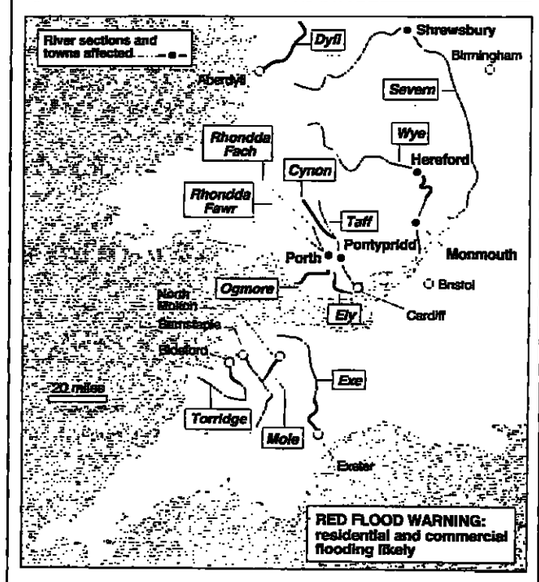
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Flood rescuer saved

Continued from page 1

man tried to grab me and he slipped in but a fireman grabbed him. I had lost them by then. I remember someone shouted to me to grab the oar of the boat. "I went over and under in the water a few times then I grabbed hold of this tiny branch. It was like something you see on TV."

Mr Gordon, a married father-of-two, held to the branch for almost an hour. When his companions failed to reach him, a Sea King helicopter was scrambled from RAF Chivenor. It hovered over the tree to lower a winchman. Flight Sergeant Paul Tretheway, who pulled Mr Gordon to safety shortly after midnight yesterday.

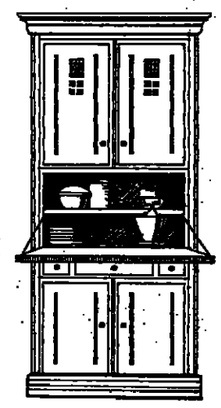
The heavy rainfall was caused by warm, moist winds travelling from the Azores and South Atlantic to the South-West, hitting cold air which has been causing the wintry cold in north Britain. Gusts of up to 70mph in exposed places added to the hazards. Heavy rain and strong winds were moving towards the South and East last night, covering the British Isles with showers. Cold weather was expected to turn the showers to sleet and snow, possibly as far south as the Chilterns and Downs by the weekend.

A family of four from Scotland were taken to hospital after their car was in collision with a bus on the wet and rainy A259 at Icklesham near Rye, Sussex, yesterday. Firemen took an hour to free the mother and her husband.

A windsurfer took advantage of a flooded rugby pitch to practise his skills. Jimmy Larder, 24, a food analyst, used the submerged ground at Keynsham Rugby Football Club near Bristol.

Forecast, page 20

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Peeping Tom watched her undress

Murdered doctor was pestered by obsessive man

BY RICHARD DUCE

A DOCTOR found murdered at her home on Boxing Day was once the victim of an obsessive man who fraudulently used her name to obtain a mortgage and a car, it emerged last night.

The evidence of Joan Francisco, 27, helped to convict the 32-year-old man of forging her signature on a bogus mortgage application and he was fined £10,000 at Knightsbridge Crown Court earlier this year. He admitted that he was infatuated with Dr Francisco and had watched her through a spyhole as she undressed at night.

Police investigating the murder of Dr Francisco, 27, who was found strangled at her home in St John's Wood, north London, said last night that they were aware of the court case but that it was only one line of inquiry in their hunt for the killer.

Dr Francisco was killed as she prepared to fly to a family reunion in Los Angeles. Instead her two sisters have flown from America to comfort their mother at her home in west London.

The family described Dr Francisco as a bubbly and likeable character. She had trained as a gynaecologist and planned to start a new job at the Royal London Hospital next month.

Detectives have yet to establish a motive for the murder. One theory is that Dr Francisco, a British citizen born in St Lucia, disturbed a burglar. Her basement flat had been ransacked and the back door was open. However, police said last night that they had an open mind about the circumstances surrounding the death and had still to determine whether anything had been stolen.

Dr Francisco lived alone, although neighbours said they believed she had a boyfriend. She had recently moved into the £750,000 Georgian building which neighbours said had been burgled over Christmas four years ago. Her body was found after her mother, Venus Francisco, told police that her daughter had failed to collect her for an afternoon flight from Heathrow to the United States on Boxing Day.

Mrs Francisco was being consoled by her two other daughters, Celia and Margaret, at her home in Acton yesterday. Margaret said that the family was still coming to terms with the loss and would not comment until later this week. Detective Superintendent Phil Beebe, who is leading the murder investigation from Paddington police station, said: "Clearly Dr Francisco's mother is very upset by what has happened but she is reassured by the fact that her other two daughters have flown over from the States to be with her and support her."



Joan Francisco: planned to start new job next month

A post-mortem examination has shown no evidence that Dr Francisco was sexually assaulted. Her body was found fully clothed.

Dr Francisco was the chief prosecution witness in the fraud case earlier this year against the man accused of using her signature to obtain a £90,000 mortgage on a flat in north London. Knightsbridge Crown Court was told that the man had thrown away the prospect of a rewarding career by his actions.

Later in 1992 the man forged her signature to buy an £11,000 Jaguar XJS on hire purchase. He offered his flat as security and when the loan company asked for proof that Dr Francisco, nominally the co-owner, had agreed, he forged her signature.

The forgery was revealed when he fell behind on payments and the loan company contacted Dr Francisco as a co-debtor. She confronted the man and he made a full confession.

Judge Hordern, QC, told the man: "Writing someone else's name on a very important document is a very serious matter. I propose to impose fines which may result in you having to sell your flat. Your equity is the fruit of your crime and in this country we do not let people profit from their crimes."

Scotland Yard confirmed that they would be interviewing the man. A spokesman said: "We are aware of Ms Francisco's involvement in this case and it is one line of inquiry we are investigating."

RAQUL DIXON



Anu and Anil Jagota with their baby, whose birth Mr Jagota said was a Christmas miracle. "We missed a bus stop by inches. We will never be so lucky again"

'Miracle' baby is born in car crash wreckage

BY KATE ALDERSON

A BABY born in the wreckage of a car that crashed while taking her mother to hospital is to be named after the ambulanceman who helped to deliver her.

The baby was delivered safely to Anu Jagota, 26, in a field at Shiremoor, Tyne and Wear, by Robin Percy, who arrived minutes after the car crashed off the road, through a hedge and into a ditch. The girl, who will have Robin as her middle name, has yet to be given a first name.

Mrs Jagota and her daughter were yesterday being cared for in North Tyneside General Hospital in North Shields, where staff described them both as "very well". Anil Jagota, the baby's father, said his daughter's safe birth was a "Christmas miracle" after all three emerged unscathed from the crash.

Mr Jagota, 29, a computer salesman from Annitsford, Tyne and Wear, was taking his wife to hospital in the early hours of yesterday morning when he lost control of his Saab car on black ice in Shiremoor. Shocked but uninjured, he rang for an ambulance on his mobile phone. "We missed a bus stop by inches. We will never be so lucky again," he said.

Northumbria Police and ambulance service arrived to discover the baby was well on the way. Mr Percy, with his colleague Ken Harvey, 53, rushed over to the car. "I climbed into the driver's seat and saw straight away that the baby's head was beginning to show already," he said. "Anu was yelling 'It's coming, it's coming'. I helped guide the baby out and it only took about three minutes."

Mr Percy, 36, an ambulance technician for 13 years, wrapped the baby in a hypothermia blanket. "I handed the baby to the mum and it was very emotional," he said. "When I held up their baby they were both in tears and I only just managed to hold them back myself."

Mr Jagota said: "We have a beautiful baby girl who is in the best of health thanks to their actions. When Robin held her up it was one of the most wonderful moments of my life."



Robin Percy: managed to hold back the tears

Village mourns friends who died in boat tragedy

BY JOHN HICKS

A VILLAGE was in mourning last night for the three men who died and two feared drowned after a speedboat capsized. The sixth man on board raised the alarm on his mobile telephone before swimming a mile to safety.

All six came from or had close family links with the village of Kircubbin on Strangford Lough, Northern Ireland, which has a population of 2,500. Despite severe exhaustion, Stephen Martin, 29, spent yesterday helping the search for his missing friends along the shores of the lough.

He told rescuers that they had stripped to their underclothes and swum for their lives when the 19ft speedboat capsized after the engine failed on Tuesday evening. For a while they managed to swim together in the dark but they were quickly dispersed by the powerful current.

Mr Martin, who is married, was rescued by helicopter from a tiny uninhabited island near Sketrick Island where the men had been visiting a public house. Problems began as the party made the four-mile trip back to Kircubbin across Strangford Lough, which normally takes 20 minutes. Coastguards said weather conditions had been fairly good. There was no lifesaving equipment on the speedboat.

The three whose bodies were recovered were the boat's owner, Hugo McCullough, 30, a builder from Kircubbin who was married; Jackie McNamara, 36, from Kircubbin, recently married with a wife expecting their first child; and Ron Grant, 54, visiting from London. The missing men were named as Chris Bell, 33, married, from Kircubbin, and George Sweeney, 39, married, on a Christmas visit from London.

Relatives and friends gathered before dawn yesterday to attend a special mass in the village's chapel. Father Brian Flanagan said: "Kircubbin is like a morgue today. The shock and sadness is a pall hanging over the village. The tragedy has killed any sense of looking forward to a happy new year."

Kieran McCarthy, a local councillor, said: "It's a complete mystery why the boat capsized. All the men would have made the trip before and respected the dangers of the sea."

SATURDAY IN THE TIMES



Fantasy holidays

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IN

WEEKEND

JONATHAN MEADES'S RESTAURANTS OF THE YEAR

IN THE

MAGAZINE

Christmas volunteer killed by hit-run car

BY RICHARD DUCE

A VOLUNTEER worker who gave up his Christmas to help London's homeless, was killed by a hit and run driver as he cycled home on Boxing Day morning, police said yesterday.

Paul Wilkins, 40, had worked through the night at a shelter in Bermondsey, south London, run by the charity Crisis, when a car drove into him from behind, throwing him into the path of an oncoming minibus. Mr Wilkins, a single man, had also given up Christmas Eve and Christmas Day to help the 300 people a night who turned up at the shelter.

Mark Scothern, director of Crisis, said: "It is tragic that a man who gave up his Christmas to help others should be killed in such a way."

Mr Wilkins, of Stamford Hill, north London, also worked for the charity last Christmas. Witnesses said the dark coloured Metro car mounted the pavement before hitting Mr Wilkins and driving off.

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Commission launched to cut red tape and make city more accommodating for directors and crews

London aims to become focus of film industry

By Dalya Alberge
Arts Correspondent

LONDON is attempting to become one of the world's leading film centres with the founding of a London Film Commission to entice film-makers to work in the city.

The commission would overcome the present bureaucracy under which film-makers have to deal with 33 different boroughs. It would offer a database of locations and technicians and help production companies to cope with traffic and security on London's streets.

A national feasibility study has been conducted for the Department of Trade and Industry by the media consultants Project Management Group (PMG), in association with the British Film Commission (BFC) and the 15 regional film commissions. Foreign film-makers cannot understand why London does not have a film commission when 80 per cent of Britain's film and television production



Samuelson: city should be more user-friendly

takes place in the capital and 85 per cent of its technicians are based there.

Sidney Samuelson, commissioner of the BFC, said: "A film commission for London is absolutely vital. We need an efficient, properly funded film commission to prove that London is user-friendly. Oiling wheels and cutting tape are fundamental to the production infrastructure."

Malcolm Patterson, a senior partner of PMG, envisaged an "information provider" that could forge links between boroughs. It looks to the example of Toronto, where on one recent night 32 different film units were out shooting.

Kenith Trodd, who is working on Dennis Potter's *Karaoke*, set mostly in central London, said filming was a logistical nightmare. "Every borough has its own policy. Some are notoriously less helpful than others."

A film commission would collaborate with film-makers to work around inaccessible sites such as Whitehall, the Houses of Parliament and Buckingham Palace. When the Harrison Ford film *Patriot Games* featured an assassination attempt on an American diplomat emerging from Whitehall, a similar building had to be found in Greenwich: security, just after the IRA rocket attack from a parked lorry, would not allow for ten production vehicles to be parked outside Whitehall.

A commission would also take on the problems that Neil Jordan encountered in making *The Crying Game*: to film a shoot-out in Eaton Square the crew had to secure permission from Belgravia police, send 1,500 letters to the residents, many of them diplomats who would have been alarmed by the sound of gunfire, and negotiate with the local authority for parking for 20 production vehicles.

There are about 300 film commissions in the world. Most are in the United States, where the film and television industry is the country's second largest export earner. The PMG study concluded that "the costs of providing a film commission service are low in comparison to the potential inward investment return". They cite the example of two American feature films that spent £50 million in London over six months.

Leading article, page 17



Harrison Ford in the American film *Patriot Games*. This assassination scene was supposed to have been set in Whitehall but security measures would not allow it. The scene had to be shot at a similar site in Greenwich

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LATE NIGHT OPENING THURSDAY

Royals head to same hotel at ski resort

By Alan Hamilton

POURING rain dampened the spirits of the Duchess of York as she flew into Zurich yesterday for the start of the royal skiing season at Klosters.

Spirits may be dampened further by the discovery that the duchess, along with Princess Beatrice, 6, and Princess Eugenie, 4, has booked into the same luxury hotel which expects the arrival of the Prince of Wales and his sons next Monday.

The double-booking appears to be a serious case of crossed royal wires, but officials did their best to dismiss it yesterday. A spokesman for the Prince's office at St James's Palace said yesterday: "The prince has made his arrangements and the duchess has made hers. By coincidence they have happened to choose the same place. It is not something he is concerned about."

Both parties will be staying at the Walserhof Hotel, although in separate suites. The duchess's daughters are firm friends of Prince William, 12, and Prince Harry, 10. The Prince of Wales and the duchess have skied together before their respective marriages collapsed.

NHS trust refuses to deny Bart's 'dirty tricks'

By Nigel Hawkes

CONSULTANTS at a London hospital are at the centre of an argument over allegations that they used "dirty tricks" to try to keep it open. The trust responsible for St Bartholomew's and the Royal London hospitals yesterday refused to deny the charges, made by the head of Bart's accident unit, Alastair Wilson.

There has been widespread condemnation of the plans to close the unit and to merge the two hospitals. In a statement, the trust said: "Some clinical staff clearly feel the trust's views are not being fairly represented and have felt the need to speak out to ensure a more balanced view is being put forward."

Mr Wilson claimed that accident victims were kept on makeshift beds in casualty, non-emergency patients were used to make the unit look busy, and patients were brought from more than 100 miles away when the late Labour leader, John Smith, visited. Also, some records of waiting lists had been changed to make the hospital look more efficient.

Mike Besser, Professor of Medicine at Bart's, said the allegations were "wicked manipulation of the facts".

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Regular workouts help grandmothers to build better life

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

IF GRANNY wants to avoid breaking a hip, she should start pumping iron. A new American study shows that older women who work out twice a week with dumbbells and training machines sharply reduce their risk of the bone-thinning condition osteoporosis. They also improve balance and muscle strength.

Miriam Nelson, a physiologist who led the study at the Human Nutrition Research Centre on Ageing at Tufts University, Boston, said: "I would say we turned the clock back 15 to 20 years." The benefits were found to be even greater than oestrogen replacement, and other medical treatments, in preventing osteoporosis.

The researchers examined the effects of strength training on bone thinning in 39 women aged 50 to 70. After a year, the 20 women who had trained for 45 minutes twice a week showed a 1 per cent gain in the density of leg and back bones compared with a 2.5 per cent decrease in the 19 women who had remained sedentary.

The women in training, who used equipment that created resistance with air instead of weights, strengthened their leg and back muscles 35 to 76 per cent compared with the other group. Balance improved 14 per cent when tested by walking backwards toe to heel, against a 9 per cent reduction among the women who did not train. Also, the exercisers enjoyed their training so much that they increased their other physical activities by nearly a third, while the other group slackened off by nearly as much.



Lansbury: workout video for older women

About 1.5 million Americans suffer broken bones as a result of osteoporosis each year, most of them women. The fractures may cause permanent disability or even death and are usually the result of falls, which is why improvements in balance and muscle strength are as important as greater bone density.

The women in the study had the benefit of a special gym with sophisticated equipment that creates resistance with air instead of weights. But Ms Nelson said that similar exercises could be done at home with less costly equipment, after consulting a doctor. "It's never too late to start," she said. The study is likely to boost the already healthy sales of workout videos for older women by such celebrities as Jane Fonda, who is 57, and Angela Lansbury, 69.

The findings were published yesterday in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, which also recommended consumption of more calcium to build and maintain healthy bones.

Another study reported by the journal found that women with the Aids virus die more quickly than infected men. No medical reason for the difference was apparent, Sandra Melnick, an epidemiologist at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health, said. But women may wait longer before seeking treatment or may be treated differently.

The study followed 768 women and 3,779 men infected with Aids for 15 months, and found that women were 33 per cent more likely to die than men who were comparably ill.

JEFF MOORE



The double-decker's roof was sliced off as it hit the railway bridge, right. It should have turned into its terminus shortly before the crash

Three hurt as bus hits low bridge

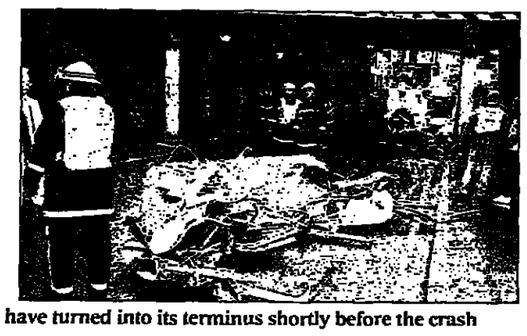
THREE passengers were injured yesterday after a bus took a wrong route and had its roof sliced off by a low bridge.

A man and his pregnant wife, who were sitting near the front of the top deck, were kept in hospital for observation last night after the accident in Norwood, south London. The couple, both in their thirties, suffered facial cuts and the husband was concussed, a spokesman for Mayday Hospital in Croydon said.

The woman's pregnancy, which was in its early stages, would not be affected, he said. Another woman sitting further back in the bus was sent home after treatment for a neck injury and cuts.

The bus was about to complete its route from Brixton to Norwood Junction. It should have turned right to the terminus at Norwood Junction station but went straight on and hit the railway bridge. Martin Elms, commercial director of the London General bus company, said.

Police said that the driver, who had worked for London General since July 1991, was in shock after the accident and would be interviewed later. Mr Elms added that the company would hold an inquiry after police had spoken to the driver.





Sally Edwards, Phillip Manning's mother, who appealed for her son to give himself up

Helicopter search for missing man

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

POLICE are to use a helicopter to search remote parts of south Wales for Phillip Manning, who is wanted for questioning over the murder of his former wife in Abertillery on Sunday.

Yesterday, as Mr Manning's mother made a television appeal in Ebbw Vale for him to give himself up, Gwent police said the helicopter search would begin once weather permitted. Detective Superintendent Ian Johnston said: "He knows the hillsides like the back of his hand. He may have come back. It is possible he may take his own life."

Mr Manning rang his mother, Sally Edwards, 61, from Kensington on Sunday. Twelve hours earlier his former wife Margaret Whitcombe was shot dead.

Yesterday a distressed Mrs Edwards said: "Phillip, if I have ever let you down, then now is the time for you to contact me. I need you to contact me to let me know that you are well and safe." Mr Johnston said that Mr Manning could be armed with a knife.

Miss Whitcombe's boyfriend Neil Jones was stabbed during the incident. Mr Manning had been released from jail after serving two years of a four-year sentence for the attempted murder of Miss Whitcombe.

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University's anti-cancer find is part of drive to benefit from world's 1.5 million species of fungus

Scientists discover marine fungus that kills leukaemia cells

BY NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH scientists have discovered an anti-cancer chemical in a marine fungus on the coast of Malaysia. Researchers at Portsmouth University are screening thousands of strains of sea-living fungi from around the globe, including Britain, and laboratory tests on the Malaysian compound have just been completed with promising results.

Professor Gareth Jones, of the university's biology department, said yesterday that full details of the discovery were being kept secret but that tests showed that the compound killed leukaemia cells. "We have got this one fungus and it is cytotoxic against a leukaemia cell line. We are now studying its chemistry with colleagues in Texas."

The discovery is the result of a worldwide drive to collect and screen some of the 1.5 million species of fungus for new and more powerful drugs, for pesticides and novel low-fat foods.

As part of the hunt for new foods for the dinner table, scientists at Nottingham University are studying ways of growing exotic mushrooms on straw, sugar beet and other wastes. The researchers are screening enzymes produced by wild fungi which break down cellulose and lignin.

The mushrooms feed on the break-down products and they hope to engineer oyster mushrooms genetically to produce more powerful enzymes that will break down wastes so that the mushrooms grow bigger and faster.

Scientists at Strathclyde University have found that sawdust, on which Japanese shiitake mushrooms have been grown, can decontaminate toxic chemicals in soil, turning them into harmless water, chloride ions and carbon dioxide.

According to Professor Anthony Whalley of Liverpool's John Moores University, who is president of the British Mycological Society, many more discoveries await fungi researchers. But there is growing concern at the number of species being lost to logging, agriculture and development.

Professor Whalley said yesterday: "They are more or less totally ignored when compared with other life forms."

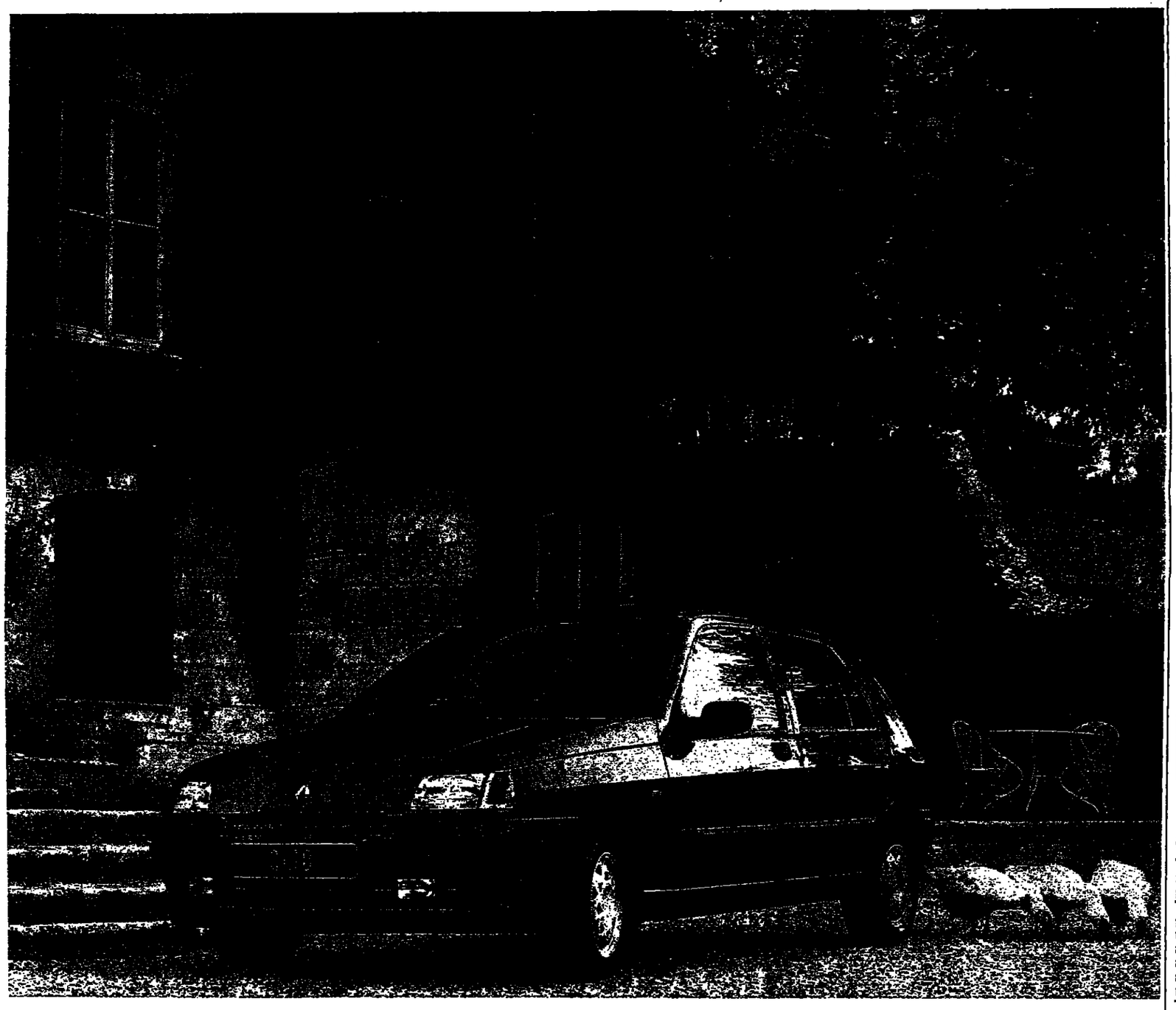
He is planning to take his concerns to the parliamentary Scientific Committee in an attempt to gain a higher status for fungi. "Whether it will have any success, who knows?" he said.

Leading article, page 17

MICHAEL POWELL



Professor Jones is not yet disclosing details of the Malaysian marine fungus, which researchers have found to be fatal to leukaemia cells



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SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN
BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

In my refresher column on December 15 I talked about the importance of limit bids. The term limit bid is used in bridge in a specialised sense, for bids that characterise strength and hand type within a narrow range; the strength range is at most 3 HCP card points and the type is one of several restricted classes.

The importance of a limit bid is that it puts the limit bidder's *partner* in command —he now knows the combined strength of the partnership, and can bid accordingly, including passing.

Which of the following types of bids would you consider should be limit bids?

1) A One Heart opening bid.
2) A 2NT opening bid.
3) Raising One Spade to Two Spades.

1) As I discussed previously, the opening bid of one of a suit has a wide strength range, and so is not a limit bid. Think of the logic: if you said that one of a suit defined a hand to say 12-14 high card points (HCP) what would you do with all the 15 HCP + hands? One of a suit has to be wide-ranging, with its strength and character narrowed down later.

2) Opening bids in No-Trumps already define the character of the hand — balanced. The term "balanced" is used for hands with shape 4-4-3-2, 4-3-3-3 and 5-3-3-2. It is usual to play No-Trump openings as having a 2-point range, with 2NT showing 20-22 HCP.

3) Raises are also limit bids. I *suppose* you could have a system in which a raise from One to Two said "I have support, but otherwise my strength is unlimited". However, the normal practice is to play that the higher you raise, the better your hand is.

It is somewhat more difficult to narrow down the exact high card strength, as distribution comes into the valuation. Over One Spade, Two Spades showed three or four card support and the equivalent of 6-9 HCP. Three Spades shows four card support and the equivalent of 9-11 HCP; Four Spades is slightly more ambiguous — it can either show around 12 HCP, or can be more pre-emptive.

To summarise: No-trump bids, raises and, in addition, rebids in a suit you have already bid once are limit bids. Partner is allowed to pass any limit bid.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Great tradition

The first Hastings tournament, in 1895, was the strongest competition in the world. That first tournament was graced by such immortals of the game as Wilhelm Steinitz and Emanuel Lasker, the first and second world champions, as well as legitimate aspirants to the title such as Siegbert Tarrasch, Harry Nelson Pillsbury and Mikhail Chigorin. Today we see two of those giants in action in complicated attacking games.

White: Tarrasch
Black: Walbrodt
Hastings, 1895

Ruy Lopez

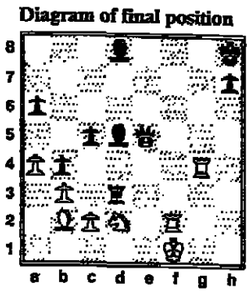
1	e4	e5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	Bb5	a6
4	Ba4	Nf6
5	Nc3	d6
6	d4	Bd7
7	Bxc6	Bxc6
8	Qe2	exd4
9	Nxd4	Bd7
10	0-0	Be7
11	b3	0-0
12	Bb2	b5
13	a4	b4
14	Nd1	c5
15	Nf3	Bc6
16	Nd2	d5
17	e5	Ne8
18	Ne3	Qd7
19	Rad1	d4
20	Nec4	Qe6
21	f4	f5
22	Na5	Bd5
23	Qd3	Kh8
24	Qg3	Ra7
25	Nac4	Rg8
26	Rde1	g5
27	Re2	Bd8
28	Qd3	Rag7
29	g3	gxf4
30	Rxd4	Rg5
31	Ref2	Ng7
32	Nd6	Qxe5
33	Nxb5	Nh5
34	Rxd4	Nxg3
35	Nxg3	Rxg3+
36	hxg3	Rxg3+
37	Kf1	Rxd3
38	Rg4	Black resigns

White: E. Lasker
Black: Steinitz
Hastings, 1895

Ruy Lopez

1	e4	e5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	Bb5	a6
4	Ba4	d6
5	0-0	Nge7
6	c3	Bd7
7	d4	Ng6
8	Re1	Be7
9	Nbd2	0-0
10	Nf1	Qe8
11	Bc2	Kh8
12	Ng3	Bg4
13	d5	Nb8
14	h3	Bc8
15	Nf5	Bd8
16	g4	Ne7
17	Ng3	Ng8
18	Kg2	Nd7
19	Be3	Nb6
20	b3	Bd7
21	c4	Nc8
22	Qd2	Nce7
23	c5	g6
24	Qc3	f5
25	Nxe5	dxe5
26	Qxe5+	Nf6
27	Bd4	fxg4
28	hxg4	Bxg4
29	Qg5	Qd7
30	Bxf6+	Kg8
31	Bd1	Bh3+
32	Kg1	Nxd5
33	Bxd8	Nf4
34	Bf6	Qd2
35	Re2	Nxe2+
36	Bxe2	Qd7
37	Rd1	Qf7
38	Bc4	Be6
39	e5	Bxc4
40	Nf5	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Hastings

This year's Hastings tournament takes place at the Cinque Ports Periquito Hotel and continues until January 8.

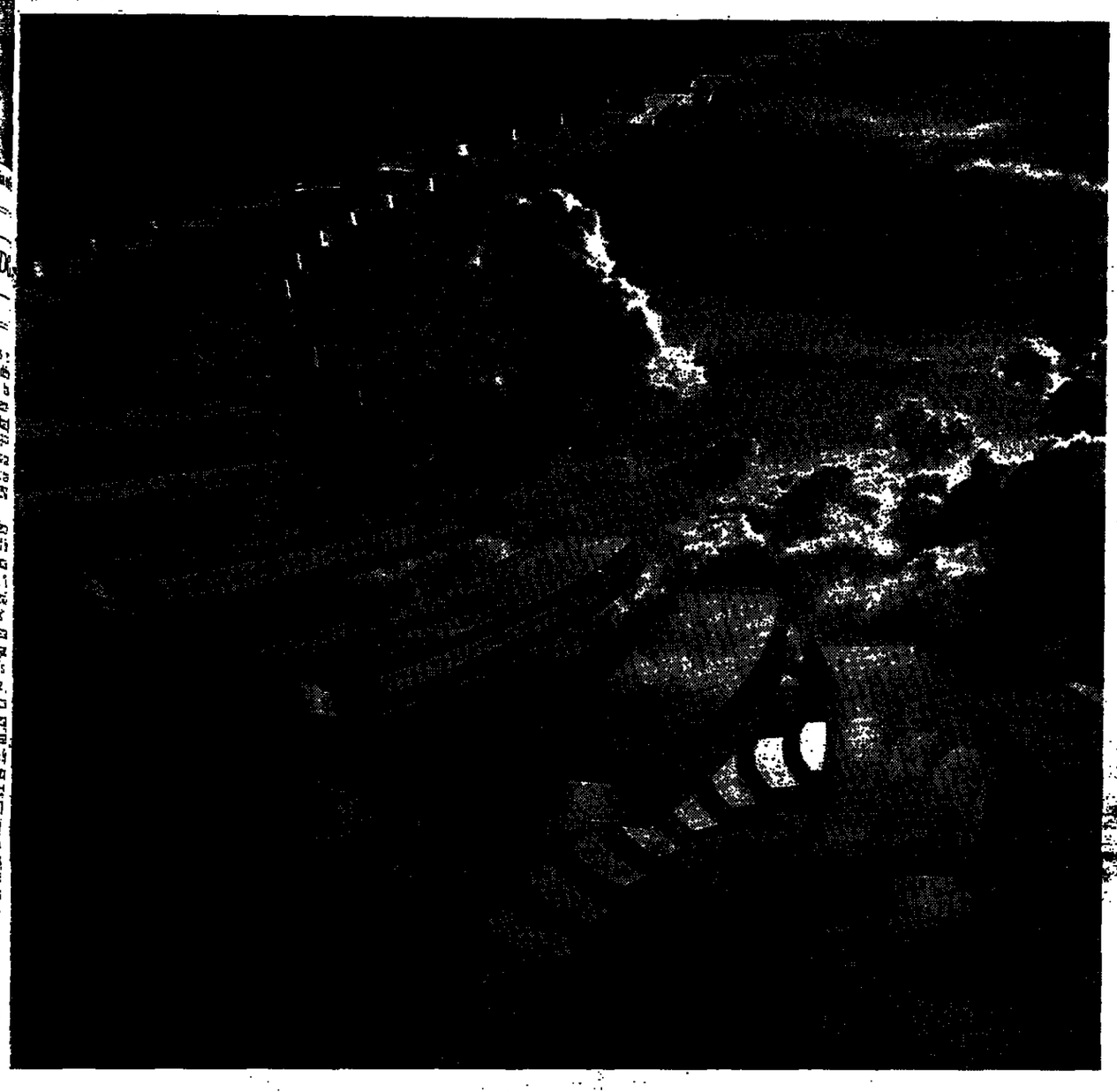
Winning Move, page 40

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El Grumpy thrives on offending the neighbours

■ In his final report on Britons in Spain, Bill Frost meets the man who is proud to be a misanthrope: "They call me the neighbour from hell and they are dead bloody right"


TONY WHITE

George Hiles with the unneighbourly messages on the side of his bright yellow home. "The trouble with this lot around here is that they have no sense of humour," he says

GEORGE HILES has not been invited to a single Christmas or new year party by his fellow expatriates at El Faro on the Costa del Sol. But then he never is and never wants to be.

On his own admission, the 69-year-old former window cleaner from Enfield has made a profession out of alienating the Britons he lives among. "They call me the neighbour from hell and they are dead bloody right," he says proudly.

Mr Hiles, who moved to the Costa del Sol 11 years ago, was happy when he first arrived in El Faro, a pretty complex of whitewashed houses in the hills above Fuengirola. "Then other Brits turned up, too many other Brits. After them it was the bloody Germans. It simply wasn't Spain any more. I might as well have been back in Enfield."

He was willing to tolerate the newcomers grudgingly until the day when a neighbour accidentally flooded his garden when emptying the swimming pool. "Then rubbish started to be strewn around outside my house. It was open war and I was going to win."

To revenge himself on his "enemies" he painted the outside of his house a vivid yellow and decorated it with a black swastika "to wind up the Kraut next door". He also placed a giant plywood hand giving an "up yours" gesture on his balcony for all to see. A mysterious catalogue of vandalism followed. Front door locks were glued, tyres were punctured and binliners full of domestic rubbish and cooking oil were found floating in swimming pools.

Mr Hiles has no idea who the culprit might be but applauds the vandal. "It's not serious is it? The trouble with this lot around here is that they have no sense of humour. They're all peasants."

When not engaged in open warfare with his neighbours, he paints landscapes and portraits in the style of Picasso. The inside walls of his home are covered with surreal and expressionist murals. "That's why I came here: the light, the sunshine and the peace and quiet to paint. But once that lot showed up in numbers everything went wrong."

He loses no opportunity to exact his misanthropic revenge after any provocation, real or imagined. "The way these people are I challenge anyone not to end up hating humanity. When they have parties and wake me up I know just what to do." He proudly displays a bank of huge speakers on his balcony wired to a powerful amplifier and radio tuner. "I find one of the Arab stations which plays music and around dawn I turn it on full blast and let them have a really nice long taste of it."

It was after one such recent incident that Mr Hiles became involved in a struggle with a neighbour and lost a tooth. A Spanish court ordered the man to pay £200 compensation. Mr Hiles is still triumphant. He put a large sign in his garden facing the neighbour's home: "Lovely lolly! You lost, plonker!"

However, there is a side to his character that the neighbours never see. Each morning he walks to a gypsy encampment on the outskirts of Fuengirola where he teaches children to paint and draw. "I speak very little Spanish, they speak no English at all. But I communicate a lot better with the gypsies than I do with all those bloody retired bank managers from suburbia."

The neighbours have long since broken off diplomatic relations. "There is no point in trying to make any contact," one said. "He is quite the rudest and most unpleasant man I have ever met."

Another neighbour, unwilling to be named — like all those who live near Mr Hiles — described him as intimidating. "At 69, you would think a chap would calm down a bit. Not him, he's always looking for a confrontation over something or other."

An elderly woman described how she had greeted Mr Hiles one morning only to be told: "Get back to bloody suburbia where you lot belong." She had remonstrated with him over his rudeness but beat a hasty retreat when "his eyes began to revolve".

A man twice Mr Hiles's size and half his age had also been intimidated. "Perhaps it is the artistic temperament that makes him snap so quickly. But whatever it is, you don't want to be around when Hiles loses his rag," he said.

Mr Hiles is highly gratified when told of such simmering hostility. "That suits me fine. The only better news would be if they all decided to sell up and go home where they belong. You never know, that might still happen."

Car parks told to improve security

BY KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

WOMEN frightened of attack in dark and desolate city car parks are protecting themselves with home-made weapons, according to a new survey for the Norwich Union.

One woman in three carries improvised weapons such as cans of hairspray, the survey for the motor insurance company said. However, almost 70 per cent of the 700 women asked had refused to use a car park because they believed it was unsafe.

Derek Plummer, Norwich Union's spokesman, said that car park operators should introduce more security measures, such as closed-circuit television, routine patrols and manned pay desks instead of machines in dark corners.

Jane Brooks, 47, who runs a recruitment agency, told researchers that she had been followed by a man from a train at Brighton station to the dimly lit corner of a car park where she had parked. Mrs Brooks confronted him, shrieking until he ran away, but said that a man matching his description had mugged a woman in Hastings. Mrs Brooks said: "Now I always drive to work. I keep my doors locked, as people have tried to open them at traffic lights, and I leave my car in a security car park, designed with women in mind."

Car park operators are finding that simple measures can have impressive results. Centro, the West Midlands transport authority, cut crime in 12 of its station car parks by 75 per cent this year. Television cameras monitor the brightly lit parking areas. There are regular security patrols.

THE TIMES

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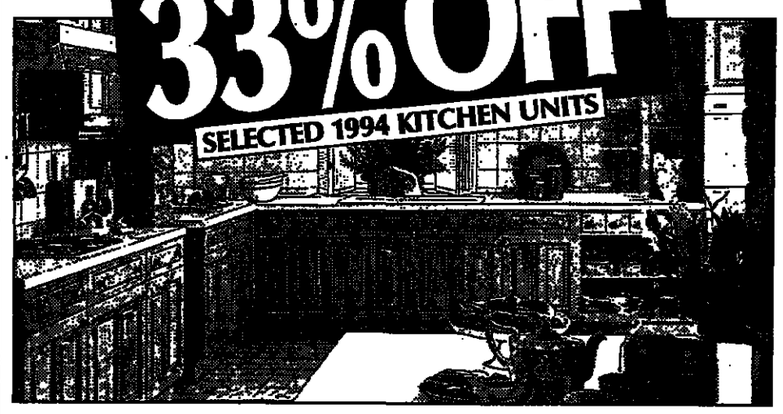
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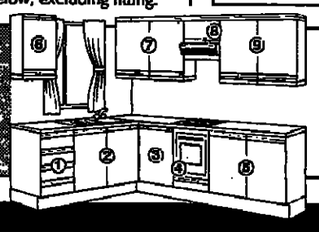
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The Times Christmas Appeal

Red Cross urges ban to stop landmine carnage

By John Young

MORE than 800 people are killed and thousands more injured each month by landmines, according to a new report by the International Red Cross. Most are civilians, men, women and children killed or mutilated as they work their fields, tend their animals or play.

According to estimates by the United Nations there are 100 million landmines planted in at least 30 countries on five continents, and some specialists think the figure may be twice as high. In the past 20 years hundreds of thousands of people have been killed or maimed; those who survive are often left permanently disabled and lose their livelihood.

Michael Whitlam, director-general of the British Red Cross, said: "It has been horrific for me to witness the devastating effect of landmine injuries, especially on children. They have very little to look forward to as they grow up. We can provide them with medical care and artificial limbs but we cannot give them back their lost childhood and the prospects for a good future."

Countries where landmines are planted include well-known scenes of conflict such as Rwanda, Somalia, Bosnia, Kuwait, Afghanistan and Cambodia. But among other countries on the list are Colombia, Peru, Zimbabwe, Iraq, Poland and the Falklands.

Mine clearance is an extremely dangerous and expensive process that few developing countries can afford. The cheapest mines cost as little as £2 but the average cost of clearing each one is £650. In Cambodia it would take more than 4,000 years to clear all mines at the present rate of progress.

Mines used to be detectable because of their metal content but new technologies and materials have made it possible to produce varieties that are practically undetectable and also are effective for far longer. Electronic techniques have been developed specifically to make such weapons still more insidious, and some even resemble toys in order to attract children.

The Red Cross has established a special orthopaedic unit to help the victims of landmines. So far it has produced more than 70,000 artificial limbs that have been fitted to patients in 17 countries.

The new report calls for a tightening of international law on the use of landmines, which, it points out, not only cause horrific casualties but make large areas inaccessible, isolating communities and preventing refugees from returning home.

At present between 35 and 40 countries are thought to produce up to one million mines a year and, of those countries, 24 are known exporters. Exact numbers cannot be determined because rudimentary devices can be produced without being registered or licensed, and even advanced examples can be copied and manufactured in secret.

"The Red Cross considers this issue to be of major importance and has called on the British Government and others to ban the indiscriminate use of these appalling and destructive weapons," Mr Whitlam said.

"We are hoping that the review of the 1980 United Nations Weapons Convention will bring some positive result so that this carnage can be brought to an end."

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ADRIAN BROOKS



A landmine victim treated at a Red Cross workshop in Afghanistan

Pantomimes are booming — oh yes they are!

By Alexandra Frean
Media Correspondent

BRITISH pantomime is celebrating a bumper year with a record number of productions. More than 250 shows are being staged up and down the country this year, compared with about 235 last year, and ticket sales are already an estimated 15 per cent up on 1993.

Paul Elliott, who heads E&B, Britain's biggest pantomime production company, said that he had taken £12 million in ticket sales so far for the 30 shows he is staging around the country — more than £1 million more than the same time last year.

Jane Ellis, of the Everyman Theatre in Gloucester, which is staging *The Jungle Book* as a Christmas show, reports a similar picture. "Recently we had our most successful day in more than three years, taking £8,000 in ticket sales in 24 hours," she said. The theatre expects to take £208,000 for its five-week panto run — more than three times the takings for plays staged in other seasons.

Jane Moss, a spokeswoman for the Society of London Theatres, said that this year there was a wider range of pantomimes than normal. In addition to traditional stories, such as *Cinderella*, *Dick Whittington*, *Aladdin*, *Jack and the Beanstalk* and *Babes in the Wood*, there were productions of *Calamity Jane*, *Robinson Crusoe* and *Pinnochio* — all billed as pantos.

Mr Elliot said the increasing popularity of pantomimes was in part a knock-on effect from the success of big West End musicals. "Pantomimes are becoming bigger and better with more spectacular sets like the musicals," he said. "We have invested £150,000 on new costumes for our Birmingham production of *Jack and the Beanstalk* and have built a huge computer-operated giant and a beanstalk that rises 38 feet out of the orchestra pit." Similarly, the Mayflower Theatre in Southend has created a spectacular 46ft by 35ft cloak for its production of *Dick Whittington*, which stars Rod Hull and Emu and features Gary Bushell from *The Sun*.

Martin Brown, of the actors' union Equity, said this year's productions showed a return to British talent and an end to last year's whim for stars from Australian soap operas, such as *Neighbours* and *Home and Away*. Only one Australian actor has been granted a work permit allowing him to appear in British panto this year, compared to 25 last year.

"We asked the Department of Employment to review their policy for giving permits as part of a campaign to reserve these roles for British talent," Mr Brown said. "It seems to have paid off." Instead, the heroes of many of this year's shows are the stars from ITV's sports entertainment programme *Gladiators*.

Petrol stations arm to fight crime

By Kevin Eason
Motoring Correspondent

PETROL stations are waging a high-technology war on thieves and vandals who are costing the industry £50 million a year.

The bill for the latest security equipment — from bullet-proof glass to time-locked safes that protect money to be paid out on the National Lottery — is as high as £39,000 per filling station. The British Oil Service Station Security Committee, known as Boss, which represents all the major oil companies, says that filling stations, often open 24 hours a day, are easy prey both for those seeking to steal sweets and drinks and those determined to raid tills for cash.

Cars have been driven away as motorists paid for fuel inside the filling-station shop. One motorist went into a Texaco shop in London to pay for his fuel only to discover his Mercedes gone when he returned.

A study by Boss found that eight out of ten filling stations have suffered from crime, with one in four robbed in the past year. More than 40 per cent had suffered shoplifting. Peter Allen, head of the Boss committee that evaluates new equipment, said: "Our problem is that we cannot have petrol stations protected by metal grilles and guard dogs, so we are looking at more novel measures and technology to protect sites."

BP is spending almost £100,000 on 200 safes with time-delayed locks to guard National Lottery prize money. The safes cannot be immediately opened by staff who may be threatened by robbers. By the time the safe opened the criminals would have been photographed. At some sites, staff can hit a panic button and robbers will be sprayed with water that has been treated with a chemical that shows up under ultra-violet light.

One unnamed site, owned by the Q8 chain, on the A23 near Brighton has a protective glass screen that rises within three seconds to cut off the till, sensitive alarms, steel doors, steel bollards to fend off ram-raiders, and reinforced roof and walls.

Some companies have found that simple measures such as better lighting, employing more staff and keeping less cash on site deter criminals.

Texaco uses electronic tills that leave just a small cash float. The rest of the money is deposited automatically into an underground safe that cannot be opened by staff.

News in Brief

Gas alert as car hits main

A man has been charged with drink-driving after a car crashed into a gas main, causing a series of leaks. About 150 people were evacuated from their homes as gas filled the air in London Colney, Hertfordshire, on Tuesday evening.

All roads into London Colney were closed for 2½ hours. A local man aged 40 was bailed to appear before St Albans magistrates on February 2.

Circus inquest

An inquest into the death of Neville Campbell, 20, of Trentham, Staffordshire, during a performance at Blackpool Tower Circus was told that the accident had been caused by human error. The inquest was adjourned.

Heart warmer

The Freeman Hospital in Newcastle upon Tyne has performed its 500th emergency heart transplant, on a man from Northern Ireland in his fifties. Three hundred and fifty nine of the transplant patients are still alive.

Murder charge

Richard John Beal, 26, of Bridlington, was remanded in custody by magistrates in Hull yesterday charged with the murder of his mother, Lyndsey Margaret Beal, 46, at her home in Hedon, Humberside, on Christmas Day.

Cyclist killed

A cyclist was crushed to death after being run over by a lorry on her way to work. The woman, aged 40, died within minutes of the accident on the Bromley bypass in southeast London. Police are appealing for witnesses.

Missing maggots

Trading standards officers in Co Durham have recommended selling maggots by weight, rather than by the pint, after an investigation showed that tackle shops were selling anglers short measures.

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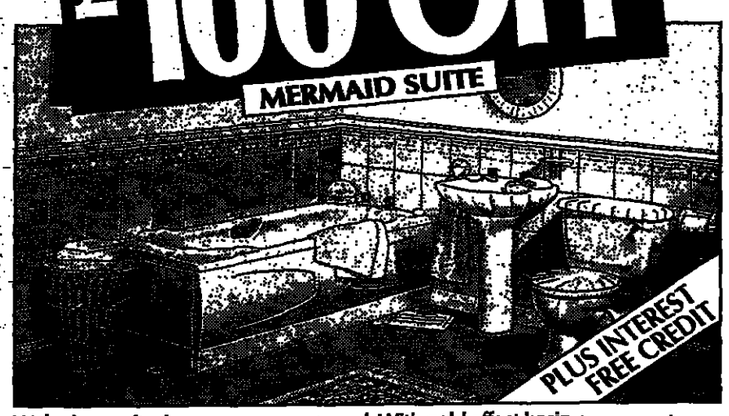
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France's Algerians fear reprisals for extremist attacks

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

FRANCE'S Algerian community has been left isolated, depressed and fearful after last Saturday's hijacking of a French Airbus and the murder on Tuesday of four priests in northern Algeria. The priests were apparently killed in retaliation for the killing of the four Algerian hijackers by French anti-terrorist police in Marseilles.

Trapped between extremism on the one hand and the backlash it provokes on the other, the Algerian community in France has viewed this week's events with deep concern. Nothing illustrated its dejection more clearly than the sight yesterday of families waiting in vain in Marseilles for ferries to take them back to Algeria. None arrived as a result of a French Government decision to suspend all air and maritime links between the two countries.

A few miles away, in the centre of Marseilles, French television crews asked Muslims to comment on Monday's rescue of the 170 hostages. Mindful that French broadcasts can be seen on the other side of the Mediterranean, and doubtless afraid of reprisals by Islamic terrorists, not one was prepared to answer. One older man looked up, blinked at the camera, then looked at the pavement in a gesture that bore eloquent testimony to the fear gripping his community.

"We're against all this, of course we are," said another man as he scuttled away. And yet, if the extremists of the Islamic Salvation Front and Armed Islamic Group — the organisation that hijacked the Airbus in Algiers — are a source of anxiety, so too are the reactions they prompt.

In August, for instance, after the assassination in Algiers of five Frenchmen, there was strong support in France for measures seen as racist by the Muslim community. These included wide-ranging roadblocks in Paris, the expulsion of 20 suspected terrorists, and a decision to ban Muslim pupils from wearing headscarves in schools.

On Tuesday, in the wake of the latest outrages, Charles Pasqua, France's Interior Minister, announced further unspecified security measures. "A strengthening of identity controls cannot be ruled out," his spokesman said yesterday.

If so, the 600,000 Algerians who live in France, and the million Frenchmen of Algerian extraction, are certain to feel that, once again, they are being targeted because of actions by a small minority.

In the past year, the French police have uncovered several arms caches destined for terrorists in Algeria. In France's run-down suburbs, where unemployment sometimes approaches 70 per cent, young Muslims can be tempted to follow Islamic militants.

For all that, however, there is no evidence that France is swamped by fundamentalism. An opinion poll in October showed that support among Muslims for the Islamic Salvation Front was less than 10 per cent. More than 60 per cent of those questioned said it was a threat. Among the Algerian community the figure was even higher.

Yesterday a Muslim group expressed its "stupor at the odious assassination" of the four missionaries in the Algerian town of Tizi Ouzou. "We associate ourselves with the pain of those close to people coldly assassinated by we know not what devil," said the National Federation of Muslims of France.

Leading article, page 17

Group admits killing priests

Tunis: Four Catholic priests were killed in Algeria on Tuesday because they resisted a kidnap attempt by three Muslim fundamentalist gunmen, Algerian authorities said.

The Armed Islamic Group (GIA), which hijacked the Air France airliner, yesterday admitted responsibility for the killings. In a statement sent to news organisations it said the priests — three Frenchmen and a Belgian — died as part of a campaign of "annihilation and physical liquidation of Christian crusaders". *(Reuter)*



Irene Pivetti, lower house Speaker, after meeting President Scalfaro yesterday

Bossi warns against snap poll

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN ROME

SUPPORT for a non-partisan government to replace that of Silvio Berlusconi, the caretaker leader, grew among Italian parties yesterday as President Scalfaro continued talks to end the country's political crisis.

Umberto Bossi, leader of the Northern League, whose defection from the Government brought down Signor Berlusconi last week, said after meeting Signor Scalfaro that parliament had "not just lost confidence in Berlusconi, but in the entire Government".

The Northern League would back a government that had wide support in parliament or a non-partisan one made up of technocrats, Signor Bossi added. He said that if Signor Berlusconi's Forza Italia party won snap elections, "there may never again be an opportunity for [sweeping] reforms".

Signor Berlusconi and his closest ally, the neo-Fascist National Alliance, appear set to gain from early polls, which they demanded last week.

CIA puts its spies into cyberspace

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

AMERICAN intelligence agents in search of sensitive and top-secret information need look no further than the computer terminal on their desk, it emerged yesterday.

A cloak-and-dagger network has been set up in the United States that shatters the mystique so often associated with the world of espionage.

The intelligence community, keen to impove communications but recognising that the regular Internet — so-called cyberspace — used by businesses and countless other government agencies was too risky, has developed a system based on the same technology known as Intelink.

The network, operational for only a few weeks, allows for the sharing of secret information including satellite imagery and video footage and will eventually permit senior CIA analysts and soldiers in the field to tap into a broad bank of classified information.

Those involved are careful to point out that Intelink, which contains data from the CIA, the National Security Agency, the Pentagon and other parts of the national security bureaucracy, will be available only to those with Top Secret clearance.

The computer runs on a cable network that the military and other agencies had been using for encrypted data. While this had allowed for electronic whispering in binary code — the equivalent of E-mail — it did not permit browsing of entire databases.

Intelink also serves as a means of searching for specific kinds of information. Baskets, or "home pages" can be created on any specific subject so that, for instance, Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, might go to the Korea page and immediately find an analysis from both the CIA and DIA (Defence Intelligence Agency).

Those familiar with the network say it has been designed never to be penetrated. But in the light of the Aldrich Ames case, in which a CIA counter-intelligence officer spied for the KGB for nearly a decade, there is certain to be debate about access.

Socialists survive censure in Spain

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID

THE minority Socialist Government in Spain fought off fresh allegations of corruption and fraud yesterday after the Madrid stock market plunged this week to its lowest point of the year in reaction to the claims.

With the support of the Catalan nationalists, the Government defeated a motion tabled by the opposition parties demanding that Juan Alberto Belloch, Minister of Justice and the Interior, should appear before a special committee in the congress. The centre-right Popular Party and the United Left communists want Señor Belloch to explain why a judicial body of the Interior Ministry is investigating corruption after 12 years of Socialist rule.

One inquiry headed by Judge Ana Ferrer has unearthed cheques totalling £35 million signed by the former head of state security, Rafael Vera, from the Government's secret slush fund account at the Bank of Spain.

Judge Ferrer is investigating the disappearance earlier this year of the former head of the civil guard, Luis Roldan, at the same time as millions of pounds from the slush fund, supposedly used for dirty tricks operations to fight crime and terrorism. Many cheques were for £50,000 made out to ministry employees.

Another investigation led by Judge Baltasar Garzon has taken a dramatic turn after the two key players involved are serialising their memoirs in *El Mundo*. The two men were police officers in Bilbao and were convicted six years ago of taking part in a covert operation that killed about 27 Eta terrorists or suspects in France between 1983 and 1987.

The police officers, allowed out on day release this summer, had apparently been promised a government payoff of £1.5 million each. But when they did not receive the reward, perhaps because Señor Roldan had absconded with it, they sold their story. Yesterday's instalment indicated that Jose Barrionuevo, the then Interior Minister, had been in charge of, or known about, Gal, the Anti-Terrorist Liberation Group.



Rose: Serbs had stopped him from visiting area

UN commander holds Bihac talks to save ceasefire

FROM TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE

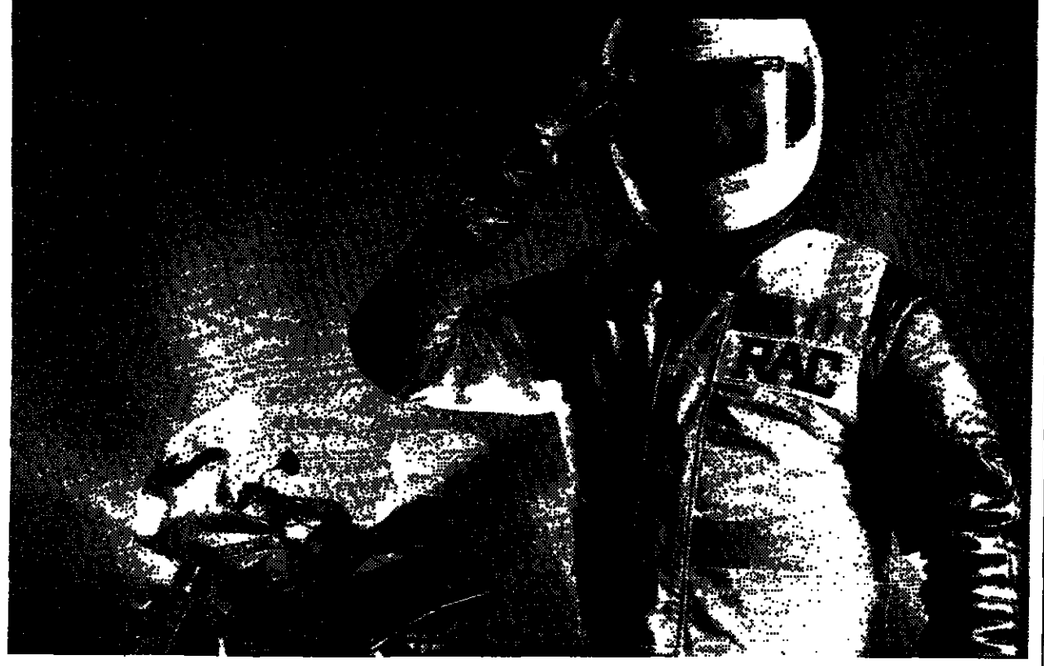
LIEUTENANT-GENERAL Sir Michael Rose, the United Nations commander in Bosnia, yesterday attempted to consolidate the republic-wide ceasefire by visiting the north-western enclave of Bihac. General Rose, who until yesterday was prevented from visiting the area by the Serbs, held talks with General Atif Dudakovic, the Bosnian army's Bihac commander and with Fikret Abdic, the rebel Muslim leader. With the ceasefire holding throughout most of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Bihac fighting is delaying the start of talks on a four-month cessation of hostilities. This is supposed to be agreed by Sunday. The Bosnian army in the Bihac enclave has been fighting not only Bosnian Serbs, but also Mr Abdic's troops and those of his sponsors, the Krajina Serbs from Serb-held Croatia.

The Bosnian Government says that Mr Abdic's men and the Krajina Serbs are really fighting on behalf of the Bosnian Serbs, and adds that it will not talk about a full truce until they have also agreed to a ceasefire. General Dudakovic was reported to have told General Rose yesterday that he was demanding the withdrawal from the enclave of the Krajina Serbs and Mr Abdic's forces.

Sources say they do not expect Mr Abdic to agree to a truce yet. He was driven from the area last August with 30,000 of his followers. Two-thirds of them are now living on a chicken farm that Mr Abdic used to run. Last week Mr Abdic's forces, supported by the Krajina Serbs, took the town of Velika Kladusa from where most of the refugees come. Sources say Mr Abdic may try to fight on until he has taken back the surrounding villages.

Mr Abdic has been holding talks with the UN about the return of his refugees. Unconfirmed reports say he has also asked the UN to help him transport 90,000 hens back to the chicken farm so that he can restart his business.

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Britain's yuppies lured by good life in Eastern Europe

FROM ADAM LEBOR IN BUDAPEST

THE scene could be a crowded venue in any British city. Becketts Irish Bar, complete with imported bar staff, draught Guinness and an Italian restaurant attached, is jammed with young British professionals.

In one corner the lawyers, in another the advertising executives; their neighbours a clutch of entrepreneurs and journalists relaxing over a drink after a day at work, discussing everything from their cash flow to their love lives.

This is not Soho or Salford, however, but Budapest, one of the latest outposts of capitalism's new frontier: Eastern Europe. Once young business pioneers seeking adventure and a career boost were told: "Go West young man". Now they are heading east: to take advantage of the type of opportunities Britain can never offer, and they are landing in Warsaw, Prague and the Hungarian capital.

Five years after the collapse of communism, Eastern Europe's capitals have less culture, shock and more of the amenities of home, from English-language newspapers and radio stations to pizza parlours with dial or fax ordering services. As well as Becketts, Budapest also boasts several English-style pubs.

Property in the three capitals is relatively cheap and a spacious flat can be rented for about £300 a month. A meal out in a restaurant can still cost as little as £10 a head.

The most important issue, however, according to expatriates, is that Eastern Europe's society and economies are still in a state of flux, open to new ideas and offering a good market for business proposals. "The Hungarian economy is much less structured than a developed Western one and so there are huge gaps, in everything from the service industries to producing carrier bags for new shops," said Tim Smart, author of a handbook on doing business in Hungary.

With Levi jeans and McDonald's restaurants on virtually every corner, the old style fascination with everything Western has long disappeared in Eastern Europe. It has been replaced by a desire, especially among the young, to learn about business, sales and marketing.

"As a foreigner you can get a position with much more responsibility in Hungary than in England, because there are not that many experts in fields like publishing," said Raymond Fox-Miller, 30, the sales director of the newly launched Budapest airport magazine.

"I couldn't have this position on a British airport magazine, but here it's an emerging and developing market and businesses are open to what are new ideas for them, although they may not be new ideas in the West. Hungarians know that now they need some help with new ideas to market and sell their products, both locally and internationally," Mr Fox-Miller said.

It is not only would-be entrepreneurs who are finding opportunities here. Those in the more creative professions find the region an ideal place to branch out in a new direction, away from the prying and perhaps mocking eyes of their peers at home.

Rebecca Denton was classically trained in opera singing, but had never performed in public before she arrived in Budapest. After a few auditions she was regularly playing several of the city's top cafes and nightclubs. "I would have been too scared to sing in London, but it made me realise that I could do it. You can try any kind of performing here without that intense competition. It let me develop my own style," Ms Denton said.

Not every Czech, Pole or Hungarian welcomes the influx of Westerners, however. Some Eastern Europeans resent what they see as a colonisation of their home cities by overpaid invaders who sometimes make virtually no effort to learn the language or culture.

Race to save rare Hebrew book

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE
DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

AN INTERNATIONAL race is under way to rescue one of the world's rarest Hebrew manuscripts, which is thought to be disintegrating fast in a Bosnian bank vault.

The 14th-century illuminated *haggadah* — a collection of prayers used to celebrate Passover — is feared to have been damp when it was placed in the vault after being snatched from a flooded basement in a shelled museum on Sarajevo's "Sniper's Alley" in June 1992.

Now Marian Wenzel, a London-based art historian, is organising a mission by experts from Istanbul to examine the book and "administer first aid on the spot". Her campaign comes amid reports that Jews from Israel and the United States are trying to gain permission to move the manuscript under armed guard out of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The *haggadah*, one of former Yugoslavia's finest national treasures, is "a handspan wide", has 142 vellum folios of exquisite drawings, gold and copper calligraphy, and has become a symbol of Bosnia's history of past religious and ethnic tolerance. The manuscript, the second oldest *haggadah* in Europe, belongs to Sarajevo's Jewish community, but has been entrusted to the Bosnian Government, which is reluctant to let it leave the capital.

Dr Christopher de Hamel, director of Sotheby's Western manuscripts department, said: "One would feel comfortable to see it in a more stable environment. Illustrated Hebrew manuscripts are very, very, very rare." The *haggadah* is said to be worth between $2 million (£1.30 million) and $5 million. The manuscript, created in about 1350, was brought from Spain by a Jewish family fleeing persecution in the Middle Ages. In 1941, it was buried beneath an apple tree on Mount Bjelasnica — now a Muslim-Serb front line — to foil Nazis who had been ordered to seize it. Dr Wenzel hopes that two experts in Turkey, including Cazim Hadzinajlic of the Art Institute of Istanbul, will be able to reach the *haggadah* by the end of January.



Detail from a page of the *haggadah*, a manuscript worth up to £3 million, thought to be rotting in a vault

Bulgarian hamlet of hope for Balkans

FROM TIM JUDAH IN ZHULT KAMUK

THERE is good news from the Balkans, but it is sometimes hard to find. Follow a dirt track up into Bulgaria's Rhodopes mountains and you may come to Zhult Kamuk, 80 miles southeast of Sofia and home to 250 people. It has one telephone, the bus comes twice a week, its textile factory closed down in 1990 and hardly anyone has a permanent job.

Despite its misfortunes, Zhult Kamuk is good news, because there are no cynical nationalist politicians. Its people are all from Bulgaria's ethnic Turkish minority but Behcet Ramadanov, the mayor, does not say life is difficult because of this. "I would not call it discrimination," he says. "It's just that we're the last village on the road and the goods have not come to us yet."

Pessimists believe that if a full-scale Balkan war breaks out, Bulgaria and Turkey will be drawn in. However, despite claims from ethnic Turkish politicians that there is discrimination against their people, moderate language is helping to inoculate the country from the scourge of nationalism that afflicts the rest of the region.

Ten per cent of Bulgaria's 8.7 million people are ethnic Turks. In 1989, just before the fall of communism, Todor Zhivkov, Bulgaria's former dictator, attempted to shore up his regime with a dose of nationalism. He tried to force Turks to "Bulgarianise" their names. Between May and September 1989, 340,000 fled, but 140,000 returned after his demise.

Since then the country's ethnic Turks, most of whom live on the land and have traditionally grown tobacco, have faced hard times. Tens of thousands have gone back to Turkey, in search of work. Laws to return property to its pre-communist owners have also left many Turks landless, and they have been hit by the low price of tobacco. Many of these problems, however, also afflict Bulgarians.

Local leaders say that since the end of Ottoman Turkish domination in 1878, there has been no history of ethnic clashes in Bulgaria. Yunal Luitfi, vice-president of the Movement for Rights and Freedoms, the political party representing ethnic Turks in parliament, says: "The situation will never explode here as it did in Bosnia because Bulgarians and Turks are not extreme nationalists or fanatics, and have a tradition of peaceful coexistence."

Three die in quake off Japan

Tokyo: The second strong offshore earthquake within three months shook northern Japan late yesterday, killing at least three people and injuring more than 150. Two deaths and most of the injuries occurred in Hachinohe, 240 miles north of Tokyo, where the tremor was also felt. The two victims died when part of a pinball parlour collapsed. A 75-year-old woman died of shock nearby, the Japanese media reported. *Reuter)*

Kurds perish

Baghdad: Newspaper reports said 200 people died in five days of fighting between rival Kurdish groups in northern Iraq. The resort of Salahuddin was "a city of ghosts", one report said. *(Reuter)*

Law blocked

Salem: A federal judge has blocked implementation of Oregon's law on assisted suicide, narrowly approved in a referendum last month, until a court can decide whether it is constitutional. *(AP)*

Dozens killed

Maturin: Dozens of people died in an explosion and fire after two Venezuelan buses collided head-on, rupturing an oil and gas pipeline here. One official said the death toll could reach 50. *(AP)*

Market pledge

Tirana: President Berisha of Albania has promised to make "massive privatisation and the extension of the area of free enterprise" his Government's main objective in the coming year. *(Reuter)*

Deer error

Lagos: A bus driver, arrested for killing a road-safety official, said he had mistaken the man standing by the side of a road for an antelope and decided to run it over, the *Nigerian Tribune* said. *(AFP)*



Maxine O'Brien, of the Lightning Ridge Miners' Association, eastern Australia, gazes at the world's largest opal, weighing 1,982.5 carats and valued at £498,077, which is to be auctioned in February. *(AP)*

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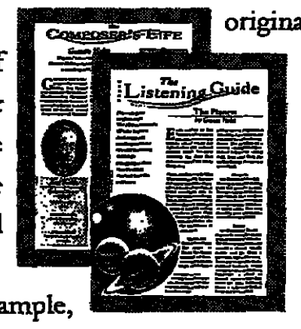
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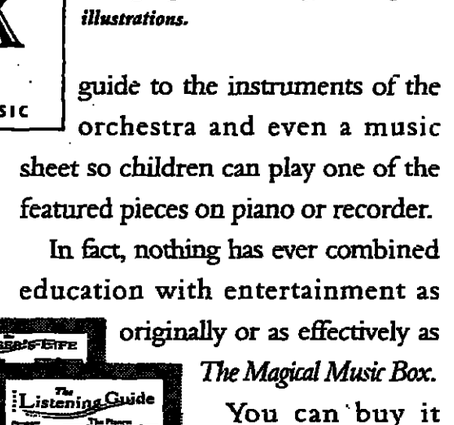
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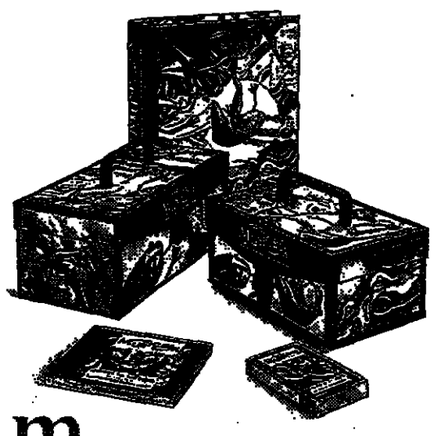
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MARSHALL CAVENDISH

Russian bombers hit orphanage in raid on Grozny

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN GROZNY

ONLY hours after President Yeltsin promised that his air force would stop bombing civilian targets in Grozny, the Chechen capital, Russian warplanes devastated an orphanage near the city centre yesterday.

In an embarrassing display of military incompetence, two Russian bombers unleashed a devastating attack on the four-storey, Stalin-era building wrecking one side of the red-brick structure, destroying a house near by and sending one bomb into the children's playground.

The attack occurred only a few hundred yards from the place where several civilians, including an American photographer, were killed last week in a similar raid which prompted Russian assurances that they would avoid attacks on residential areas.

The orphanage, once one of the most prestigious institutions of its kind in the former Soviet Union, was in ruins last night. The corridors were carpeted in smashed glass, a severed gas pipe leaked into the air and two storeys of classrooms were pulled down by the force of one bomb that hit the roof. There was a large crater in the playground, a slide was covered with debris and mud, and the head of an ornamental bird was ripped off. Yaragi Kavarnukaev, the head of the orphanage located two miles from the city centre, said that usually he allowed the children to go above ground at about 7am, only 20 minutes after the raid took place.

"If the aircraft had come any later it could have been a catastrophe. We were lucky this time. What is [Russian President] Yeltsin thinking of? Does he suspect these children are fighters? Most of them are Russians. They have no one in the world except us, and now this happens to them," he said.

He added that most of the 400 orphans had been found new homes over the past three years since Chechenia declared independence and began its challenge to Russia's authority. The 41 children left behind, however, had no relatives willing to take them in.

Zhenya, a dishevelled boy of 11 in hand-me-down clothes, who still seemed to be in shock from the experience, said: "I was asleep with the other children in the shelter when I heard the explosion. The young ones started laughing because they thought it was a game. They did not understand what had happened. But we are afraid they [the aircraft] will come back." Although only one person was missing and believed killed in the attack, reports reaching Grozny said that another six civilians were hurt when Russian bombers raided the village of Prigorodni, apparently trying to knock out a radio transmitter.

The two incidents, coming so soon after the pledge by the Kremlin on Tuesday not to hit civilian targets, further undermined what little credibility Moscow has left in the eyes of Chechens. "Yeltsin tells us one minute that he will not bomb civilians, and the next thing you know they've hit an orphanage," Dr Aslambeg Agsaleyev, the head of Grozny's main hospital, said.

Rezvan Ibragimov, a middle-aged professor of English, was more forthright. "Even the Fascists did not bomb children when they attacked us during the Second World War. I have had enough, I am going to fight the Russians."

Last night, a group of Russian parliamentarians staying in the Chechen capital in an effort to prevent the conflict deteriorating condemned the new bombing raids. "The party of war have won in Moscow," Sergei Kovalyov, Russia's human rights commissioner and one of the team, said.



A Russian commando outside Grozny decorates a Christmas tree with used cartridge boxes and empty cans

Dhaka in turmoil as MPs resign

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS
SOUTH ASIA CORRESPONDENT

BANGLADESH'S entire opposition resigned from parliament yesterday, throwing the country into political turmoil and threatening the young democracy barely four years after its first free elections.

The move is designed to force the resignation of Begum Khalida Zia, the Prime Minister, on the grounds that her administration is corrupt and inept. "We've done it," Shaikh Hasina Wajed, leader of the Awami League, the main opposition party, said after MPs handed their resignations to the Speaker.

Shaikh Wajed is demanding the installation of a neutral caretaker government pending fresh elections, which would not normally be held until early in 1996. Yesterday's resignations are the culmination of a nine-month campaign, marked by large-scale strikes and demonstrations, to topple the administration.

The reappearance of riot police on the streets during the crisis has awakened memories of the dictatorship of Hussain Ershad, who is in jail for alleged offences committed during his rule. He still runs his Jatiya Party from jail and it has also resigned.

Opposition parties held 153 seats in the 330-seat house. They said earlier this month that they would quit unless the Government resigned. Jamaat-i Islami, the main religious party, was among those that quit, although it played a key role in putting Begum Zia in power in March 1991.

A parliamentary boycott by the opposition since March has made a mockery of Bangladesh's democratic experiment. A 40-day mission by a Commonwealth team failed to resolve the conflict, which clearly threatens the Government's survival.

Recent negotiations had seemed to come close to reaching a deal under which Begum Zia would have handed over power to President Biswas, who would have conducted new elections as head of an interim government.



Zia: opposition tries to force her resignation

Pakistan patrols front line in war on West's supply of heroin

DES JENSON



Pakistani police check vehicles for drugs on the Peshawar to Rawlpindi road

FROM PEREGRINE HODSON IN PESHAWAR

By United Nations estimates, Pakistan produces about 220 tons of opium a year, but is a net importer of the drug with some coming from the 1,500 tons produced Afghanistan, where there is a civil war in the capital, and law enforcement has broken down.

Inside Afghanistan, the anti-drugs ministry in Kabul is run by Dr Abdul Haq, who believes religion can be a safeguard against drug abuse. "We must educate the people. For many, in remote places, opium is a medicine which has been useful for hundreds of years. We must tell them the dangers." Unfortunately, Dr Haq's drugs policy is almost irrelevant, as much of Afghanistan is beyond government control. Pakistan is left to deal with the problem.

In the semi-autonomous tribal areas of Pakistan, on the border with Afghanistan, the raw opium is converted to heroin. One of the chemicals used in the production of heroin is acetic anhydride. Pakistan does not manufacture the chemical, which is smuggled into the country from abroad. The country's Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) wants foreign manufacturers to monitor their production and sales of acetic anyhdride.

From the tribal areas, the heroin follows two main routes; west by road to Islamabad airport, or south through Baluchistan to the Arabian Sea. Late at night on the Grand Trunk Road, between Peshawar and Islamabad, police checkposts search vehicles for drugs and weapons. They get a cash reward for any seizure. Men poke long metal probes into loads of cotton and vegetables, then sniff the tip for any trace of drugs. The equipment is rudimentary. The police are poorly paid and some take bribes to look the other way.

If the traffickers get through the checkposts, the heroin is smuggled via airports where there are too few sniffer dogs to screen luggage efficiently. Drug couriers take up to 3.3lb of heroin. Body searches uncover some of the contriband, but drugs swallowed in contraceptives sometimes get through because X-ray equipment is too expensive for the airport authorities.

However, Pakistan's efforts against drugs have had some success. Last month, on the bank of the Indus, 1,100lb of heroin and 19,140lb of hashish were set alight in a public ceremony, while a brass band played funereal music.

Foreigners are quick to blame Pakistan for the volume of drugs passing through its borders, but slow to offer assistance.

Until now, the flood of opium from Afghanistan has been treated as Pakistan's domestic problem, rather than an international issue. There is already aid from foreign countries aimed at drugs control in Pakistan, but the effect on opium production inside Afghanistan is negligible. The United Nations has set up crop-substitution programmes in poppy-growing areas on the border between the two countries. Pakistan is in the front line of a war that affects the rest of the world. Other countries stand by as if powerless. Western governments, facing the threat of soaring drug-related crime, must decide how much they spend to stop people taking drugs, and whether the money should be spent trying to reduce demand domestically, or cut supply from overseas.

The soldiers of the ANTF are keen and disciplined, but under-funded. They lack the expertise to pursue drug profits through money-laundering schemes, nor have they the skills to deal with foreign deportation laws. The death penalty has been introduced for major suppliers, but so far nobody has been executed. Traffickers can exploit grey areas between different countries' laws to block extradition and bringing them to justice is often beyond the scope of domestic legal systems. To cope with the problem, an international court has been suggested, along the lines of the UN-sponsored war crimes tribunal in The Hague, to deal specifically with cases of international drug smuggling.

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Rwandans return home to a deadly cycle of revenge

FROM TOM WALKER IN GITARAMA

THE pessimists say Rwanda can never recover and again be a viable country. The optimists say it can be rescued, over perhaps a decade. The opinions belong to the legion of white aid workers, soldiers and diplomats who buzz round the tiny nation. Rwandans, meanwhile, have little choice but to pick up the pieces of what lives they have.

The killings continue. At a twice-weekly meeting of the United Nations Rwanda Emergency Office, a military official recaps a litany of shootings, maimings and torture from the country's six security "sectors". A grenade kills 14 near Cyangugu in the southwest; the Rwandan Patriotic Army shoots at a boat on Lake Kivu, killing another nine; RPA soldiers die in an attempted mutiny in the centre of the country.

These are just the reported incidents. It is safe to say that hundreds are dying every week. The problems often start when Hutus return from camps outside or inside Rwanda to their villages and communes. Automatically, they are suspected of involvement in the April genocide; their homes are often occupied by Tutsi returnees. Up to 75 per cent of the Tutsis now returning have not been in the country since 1969, when they fled the pre-independence Hutu revolution. The Tutsi-controlled prefectures promise that homes will be given to rightful owners, but the RPA is the only arbitrator.

In the volcanic folds west of Kigali, Nyabikenke, like thousands of other villages, is coming to terms with the horrors of April and its violent backlash, when 8,000 Hutus fled before the Rwandan Patriotic Front advance. Laurent Nzilika, a medical assistant at the village dispensary, stayed. A Hutu, married to a Tutsi, he narrowly escaped murder by both sides.

"The Hutus came to get me when they found I had been giving help to Tutsis," he says. "I hid for two days in the bush, and my wife fled to Gitarama. I thought she was dead." Even when the killings abated, thugs threatened to cut his arms off if he treated a Tutsi, so he stopped work altogether. The Tutsis accused him of assisting in killing his wife's relatives.

"The young men and the children haven't come back," he says. The houses have been taken by Tutsis. The rest of us live in fear of the RPA. I wish the UN troops would come here, but they never do." Hutus suspected of having killed Tutsi cattle are forced to pay reparations of 20,000 Rwandan francs (£50) a cow. "You get three warnings," he says. "If you don't pay, the RPA come round and take whatever you have. I don't know what the new government is doing. I don't know what the future is."

The acting commander of the nearest UN protection battalion, Major Nicholas Chitira, a Zimbabwean, admits to serious misgivings about the RPA. "From my point of view it looks like they are losing control of their men," he says.

At the UN Rwanda Emergency Office meeting, a spokesman gives details of 16 Hutu returnees killed by the RPA. The figures and the aid community's indignation irritate the RPA's liaison officer, Lieutenant Jean-Marie Cameron. "When you don't do justice then you can't talk about reconciliation," he says. "Sixteen are killed now, but how many were killed three months ago? We would like you to remember what happened in this country before talk about that. Don't expect these people to go back and no one to react."



A Jewish settler looks on as Palestinian protesters pray on the disputed hillside, south of Bethlehem, where bulldozers worked yesterday

Rabin questions legality of halting settlement

FROM BEN LYNFIELD IN JERUSALEM

YITZHAK RABIN, the Israeli Prime Minister, cast doubt on the expansion of a Jewish settlement in the West Bank yesterday when he asked the Attorney-General to review the legality of halting the project.

The move did not stop Israeli bulldozers from digging for a second day on a hilltop south of Bethlehem to prepare a new neighbourhood to be linked with the Jewish settlement of Efrat. Nearby, about 200 Palestinians from the town of Al-Khader protested against the development a day after being evicted by soldiers from land they say belongs to them.

Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman, called an emergency meeting of the Palestinian National Authority in Gaza over the dispute, which has become a test of Mr Rabin's intentions in the West Bank area that Palestinians see as the heartland of a future state. Settlers view the area as the heart of biblical Judea, the cradle of the Jewish nation.

Oded Ben-Ami, Mr Rabin's spokesman, said Michael Ben-Yair, the Attorney-General, would report to the Cabinet on Monday, but construction would proceed in the meantime. Behira Burdugo, a spokeswoman for Shimon Peres, the Foreign Minister, said he had told Mr Arafat the matter was being investigated. She said the legality of the blocking order needed to be thoroughly checked because the construction was being carried out by a private group, not the Government.

The developments caused angry and sarcastic responses among Jewish settlers. "Everything the Palestinians do we must accept because otherwise the negotiations blow up," said Aharon Domb, a settlers' leader.

Barber to four heads of state dies at 82

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

MILTON PITTS, barber to four American presidents who never charged more than $25 (£16) for a wash, cut and blow-dry, has died in Washington, aged 82.

Recruited as presidential hairstyist by Richard Nixon, Mr Pits went on to tend the heads of Ronald Reagan, Gerald Ford and George Bush at his small but very exclusive White House establishment, conveniently close to the Oval Office.

It was Mr Pitts who persuaded Mr Nixon to give up Brylcreem, and who gave the President his last haircut before he resigned over the Watergate affair in 1974. He then inspired Mr Ford to stop using Vitalis and to switch to using a hair spray and blow dryer.

On learning of his death, Mr Ford said: "Milton was not only a super barber, but a wise, knowledgeable and gentle, warm friend."

Mr Pitts briefly left the White House during the tenure of Jimmy Carter — when he found himself sharing a "unisex" salon with a pair of interlopers — only to return when Mr Reagan was elected. In that post he assured the world that the elderly President did not, as had been commonly thought, dye his hair.

He remained a loyal servant of the White House until 1993 when it became clear that President Clinton had rather different ideas on hair care and entrusted his own locks to the more fashionable and much more expensive hands of Christophe, the Hollywood stylist.

After the incident at Los Angeles airport, when the presidential plane waited as Mr Clinton was given a $200 (£130) trim, the First Family sought counsel from different stylists. For Mr Pitts, however, the damage had been done.

"There's no excuse for a person today paying $200 for a haircut. That's showmanship," he said at the time. "Anyone who can't do a good haircut for $25 shouldn't be in business."



Milton Pitts, veteran hairstylist to the White House

Congress urged to drop gun curbs

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE new Republican Congress, preparing for a complete reversal of liberal policies when it opens next week, is under pressure from America's gun owners to overturn a ban on assault weapons.

Buoyed by its rising membership and the return to conservative values, the National Rifle Association, the scourge of the liberal establishment, believes that it can reverse a number of laws limiting the use of guns in the United States. Nineteen types of assault weapon were banned last year, sales were regulated and tougher laws were passed to punish violent offenders. Gun sales nevertheless continued to increase by 60 per cent across the country.

The latest estimates show that there are 222 million guns in the country, 11 million more than in 1993. The rifle association claims that while most Americans overwhelmingly favoured the Brady Bill, requiring five days of investigations before a gun can be bought, they now want much stricter controls on criminals. With the Republicans controlling Congress, it says there will be a sea change in attitudes towards gun ownership.

"I believe it's going to be our agenda they are going to have to deal with now," said Wayne LaPierre, executive director of the rifle association, who has seen some of his biggest political enemies ousted from office during the mid-term elections and his staunchest allies placed firmly in charge.

"Not one senator or congressman that supports firearms freedom was defeated and replaced by somebody who wants to ban guns," he said.

The association last year spent $4 million (£2.5 million) supporting Republican challengers and buying television slots targeting Democrats who had voted for President Clinton's crime Bill — which banned the 19 specific weapons. As a result, irate gun owners have flocked to the group, increasing membership to a record 3.5 million — up 2.2 million on the figure of 18 months ago.

For advocates of gun control, 1995 is being seen as a year to try to protect previous gains.

"The first item of priority is making sure the laws passed by this last Congress are not repealed," said Robert Walker, of the Centre to Prevent Handgun Violence. "We have to take those threats very seriously."

Sale of 'hitman's bullet' delayed

DAVID KEEN, the manufacturer of "Black Rhino" handgun bullets, which are able to penetrate body armour, promised yesterday that he would delay their distribution because of fears that they might fall into the wrong hands (Tom Rhodes writes).

Mr Keen, who had previously insisted that Black Rhino and its equally damaging sister, Rhino-Ammo, were strictly defensive ammunition, did not mention any delay in the latter's entry on to the weapons market. The rounds, which have evaded government restrictions on "cop-killer" bullets because they are made of polymers rather than metal, had brought immediate criticism from police forces.

"[Black Rhino] could be the bullet of choice for hitmen — it's crazy," said Dewey Stokes, president of the Fraternal Order of Police.

Mr Keen, chief executive of Signature Products Corporation of Huntsville, Alabama, said it had created the ammunition by chance when engineers were experimenting with plastic similar to that used to coat stealth aircraft. Packaging for Rhino-Ammo claims the bullet fragments into thousands of razor-like pieces when it strikes human flesh. Each fragment becomes a "lethal shrapnel and is hurled into vital organs ... Death is nearly instantaneous". The Black Rhino version is designed to penetrate bulletproof materials such as Kevlar.

US raises stakes to win pilot's release

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

SENIOR members of Congress issued a warning yesterday that they will move quickly to block North Korea's nuclear accord with the United States unless an American helicopter pilot is released soon.

"It was a lousy deal anyway, and I don't want to implement it," said Robert Dole, who takes over as Senate majority leader when the Republicans assume control of Capitol Hill next week. Democrats agreed that the entire package of rewards, to be given to North Korea for halting its nuclear weapons programme, could be scrapped.

The first loss would be delivery to North Korea of heavy fuel oil worth nearly $5 million (£3.2 million) by January 21. A new year meeting about setting up diplomatic offices in Washington and Pyongyang, the North Korean capital, would also be cancelled.

While the affair took a turn for the worse, Thomas Hubbard, a senior American diplomat, arrived in Pyongyang yesterday to try to win the freedom of Chief Warrant Officer Bobby Hall, 28, who was in command of the observation helicopter brought down nearly four miles inside North Korea on December 17. North Korea wants Washington to admit that the helicopter was on a spying mission and that its two-man crew were "criminals". David Hilemon was killed when the aircraft came down.

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LONDON ELECTRICITY

Add the zest of a Cradock

John Diamond on the redoubtable woman who first put glamour into the British kitchen


KELVIN BRODIE

Fanny and Johnny at work in their television kitchen: we watched her because she wore too much make-up and shouted at Johnny and at us

In 1952, the stove which the late Philip Harben lit for the first time on British television was the same rickety, cream-enamelled New World domestic model his viewers would have used — four spindly rings on top with a couple of ancient Prestige saucepans balanced on them, an oven just big enough for the Sunday joint below.

Fanny and Johnny Cradock made their debut in 1955. They, too, could have used the equivalents of the 1950s professional kitchen but the viewer wouldn't have understood it. The pioneers were there to remind us that food had existed before wartime Woolton Pie and snoek or, later, that there were more sensible alternatives to fish fingers and frozen peas. Restaurant-going had not yet become a leisure pursuit.

Come the 1990s, and their heirs do it differently. When celebrity TV chefs Gary Rhodes and Anton Mossiman and the rest cook on screen, it is on roaring stainless steel industrial ranges on which they slam shining pans taken from a *batterie de cuisine* which stretches way out of camera shot. The job of the modern TV chef is, by and large, to teach us how to recreate cheaply and convincingly the expensive meal we had last night in whichever eatery is currently à la mode.

When Harben's show was first aired the year after Elizabeth David published her first book many of the basics were still rationed and he used his own family's butter and meat on screen. He was preaching to a generation which had lost the trick of working from the full palette of English ingredients — which was, even so, a pretty restricted palette — and to one brought up on Ministry of Food recipes rather than the family's oral cookery books.

Harben's style was prescriptive: take a pound of this, add half a pound of that, cook for five minutes, *voila!* Flexibility extended no further than allowing you to leave out the clove of garlic if you didn't want too foreign a taste. He preached common sense. But that wasn't enough, for even then the programmers understood that it is impossible to cook a full meal in a 30-minute slot and that the essentially tedious acts of stirring and sifting and watching things simmer are hardly enough to sustain a TV show.

Harben's trick was to bounce plumply around the kitchen, barking at the pots and at the camera alike, turning the mundane craft of roasting a joint into show business.

Which was where the Cradocks came in. Sure, Fanny knew about cooking and Johnny knew about drink, and their shows had at their core that same culinary common sense that Harben had demonstrated and which was already starting to pop up on the early evening magazine shows. But we watched the Cradocks because they were glamorous. They dressed in velvet frock and dinner jacket, and showed us plebs the tasty little treats that the other half ate.

If Harben was cooking for the family table, then Fanny was catering for small ambassadorial dinners where there was never any excuse for running out of canapés before the gong sounded for the first course. Like a generation of TV cooks, she assumed that people had far more time and were willing to put much more effort into their cooking than was generally the case: it was her boast, I seem to remember, that her mother had once cooked an entirely pink dinner party.

We watched her because she wore too much make-up and shouted at Johnny and at us. But she was also to add one extra ingredient to her cooking which Harben had left out: gentle snobbery. We were beginning to give dinner parties (which, for most of us, was still termed "having a few people round for supper") and we wanted to know how to do it right.

More: there was now some sort of sense of food as fashion — not the sort of North-Italian-this-week-Thai-next-week fashion we have now, but the social litmus paper fashion that hinted to us that what we cooked and the way we served it would say more about us than we could comfortably ignore.

Fanny and her imitators lasted until the 1970s. Then Graham Kerr, the Galloping Gourmet, taught us that food had been about sex all along. Each episode climaxed in Kerr sitting down at a seductively napped table with — almost invariably — a woman snatched from the audience and flirting with her for the camera.

While Cradock specified ingredients to the very grain and crumb, Kerr just bunged it all in. Every dish, it seemed, was cooked in wine, and wine was measured in vague sloshes — one for the pot and one for the cook. We could all do that, certainly; what we couldn't do was that slicing thing he did with the blur of paring knife grazing against his knuckles. Cooking, the blur told us, was a skill after all.

Kerr disappeared, but he had set a trend: cooks as virtuosi. There were still the heirs of Harben, pinafored and demonstrating how to choose a properly marbled joint of beef and test a haddock for freshness in the nether lands of afternoon TV, but the ones who made it big were the ones with a showbiz gimmick — Hudson and Hall with their kitchen camp and Rusty Lee laughing herself hoarse. And, at the genre's apotheosis, there was Keith Floyd with his shouting at the cameraman as Fanny used to shout at Johnny.


Rhodes: new generation


Harben: old master

So, by the end of the 1980s, the television cooking industry split in two. On the one side were the real cooks headed by Delia Smith — the TV cook whose recipes anyone can actually follow — and on the other the manic restaurateurs who dropped the "here's one I made earlier" routine and demonstrated that it could take no longer to cook a good meal than you would expect to wait for a course in a restaurant.

There may be viewers who carefully note down the Ceefax recipes for the programmes headed by Rhodes and Roux (or, more likely, buy their tie-in cook books), just as there were people who copied down the jerky Cradock recipes as they crawled up the 405 lines of the black and white television screens.

But now, as then, people who want to learn to cook buy books or take lessons or cling to their mother's apron strings. TV cooking, as Fanny recognised all those years ago, is for people who would rather just watch.

The grim message of a shooting

Never toy with guns


LIBBY PURVES

THERE is a particular and horrible resonance in the death of Robert Dixon during this Christmas week. If you are sitting at this moment amid a plastic arsenal of toy guns, engaged (against the rattling rapid-fire of computer games) in arguments about today's crop of television shooty-bangs, you cannot help but shudder. Not least because three of today's big films are Westerns, a genre which we now find positively benign and moral compared to the Schwarzenegger and Tarantino variety. Yet it was Westerns which killed Robert Dixon.

Mr Dixon, a quick-draw hobbyist well-known at displays where boyish men play cowboys, was shot dead by West Yorkshire police early on Tuesday morning. He had created a disturbance with a replica pistol, and was finally confronted by the police — who did not know it was a fake — on his own doorstep. In some unguessable confusion of mind, he shot at the officers. Blanks: but how could they know? They shot him. It is only two Christmases since another replica gun got its owner shot by the same force. All the usual questions will be asked.

One can only hope that among those questions is: "What else could they do?" Followed by: "Who can help those young coppers, stuck with the knowledge that the man they shot was not a dangerous nutter but a harmless one?" For Cowboy Bob, as he was known, looked after a disabled wife and had neighbours who say he would not hurt a fly.

But he lived by the gun dream and has died by it. Not one of the toy pistols on the sofa looks as innocent as it did. It is very unfashionable, very Seventies, for parents to worry about children's preoccupation with guns: we all have hilarious stories about earnest *Guardian* mums who deny their little boys guns, only to have them pointing organic carrots and going "Bang!". We tend these days to wince and laugh and shrug and let the guns in; we clutch at psychological theories about empowerment and reconciling phallic uncertainties.

So maybe it does us no harm to be reminded that a real fascination with guns is different from other fads. The gun is relatively new in human history: it enables the holder to kill without feeling the pulsing life of the target. It is godlike power wielded at a distance. A gun is the ideal weapon of the detached, the reticent, the almost autistic. It is the opposite of a relationship. When you grapple or stab, or even throw a heavy stone with your own muscles, you are connected to the enemy. When you shoot a man, as Arnie would put it, you "blow him away".

This is extremely attractive to small, powerless children, who see "Bang!" as their only chance of overcoming the huge and terrifying figures in their lives. If the passion carries on too long, however, it suggests that someone's relationship with the rest of the world is not terribly good. Families have ways of dealing with it; the most ingenious I came across was the rule of a Belfast mother, who allows her boys only water-pistols. "That way," she says, "they aren't playing at bullets, but getting each other wet for real. I find it less offensive."

Others follow the same principle, of introducing reality and responsibility into the gun business, by giving older children airguns, targets, and lessons. It is noticeable that children who have airguns get far less enthusiastic — even sometimes squeamish — about toy guns and computer shootouts. So, quite often, do children who are involved in country sports.

WHEN Princess Beatrice was taken shooting at Sandringham over Christmas, there was the predictable uproar; but however you feel about the kind of people who pop off at hand-reared pheasants, it has to be admitted that they do teach their children the reality of guns. They make them handle the dead birds and face the responsibility of ending life. Those children rarely end up raking larger houses with automatic fire.

But if you live on fantasy — whether Western, survivalist, or military — and let the illusion of power detach you from the reality of death, there may be trouble. As a mark of respect for Cowboy Bob, I shall not watch *Gunfight at the OK Corral* today; nor any of the 15 other gun films on TV which I counted before giving up.

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The dangers of rats, squirrels — and pet dogs ☐ Striking a blow for phosphorus ☐ No time for hesitation in treating meningitis

Beware of the bite



THE paintings of two Victorian Suffolk brothers, E.R. and Tom Smythe, are often centred on a decaying thatched farmhouse and yard, with jolly men and women performing rural tasks amid general squalor and mud. Thirty years ago, I had a patient who lived on a farm which could well have served as the model for a Smythe oil. It was owned by a strapping, middle-aged woman who was always dressed in dungarees and a Land Army jersey. Despite her surroundings, she always remained wonderfully cheerful.

To her own and everybody's surprise, she became pregnant and was delivered of a girl who had Down's Syndrome. Initially the child prospered but when a month or two old began to develop abscesses which, despite antibiotic therapy, kept recurring. Only when I was with her one evening and saw a large rat scuttle across the bare boards of the attic towards her nursery did I realise that rat bites could be the cause of the abscesses.

The Christmas issue of the *British Medical Journal* quotes a similar case, in which a woman who was happy to go to bed with a tame rat had unexplained, recurrent abscesses, which remained undiagnosed until somebody spotted the patient carrying her furry friend around. She then admitted to her sleeping habits. Interestingly, no rats' teethmarks were visible either on the Hertfordshire woman or on my Norfolk patient: but in both instances, separation of the patient from the rats during sleep resulted in a cure. My patient's plastic cot was replaced with my father's metal uniform case covered in small-gauge wire netting.



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

Rats are not the only wild animals to cause trouble with bites: the *BMJ* survey reports that an increasing number of patients are being bitten while feeding squirrels: in 67 per cent of the cases patients have been bitten more than once.

The *BMJ* recommends that all animal bites should be carefully cleaned and prophylactic anti-tetanus considered. Rat bites, like dog bites, need antibiotic cover; but not, it seems, squirrel bites, because their herbivorous diet preserves a clean mouth and uninfected teeth.

The most tragic story of an animal bite recently was the death of a month-old girl after being savaged by the previously quiet household bull terrier. The incident happened too late for the *BMJ* report but the case underlines the fact that all dogs are pack animals and that in the dog's mind there is real doubt as to the position of a small child in the pack hierarchy. The absolute rule is never to leave young children with unattended dogs, however amiable their past behaviour.

Bright spark



PASSING the Bryant & May factory in the East End always reassured East Anglians that they were leaving London behind them. Bryant & May closed in London some years ago: its last factory in England, the last British match factory, closed just before Christmas.

Although the end of Bryant & May is now regretted, the manufacture of matches from yellow phosphorus was the cause of terrible health and physical deformity in the 19th century. In the East End at the time it was arguable whether the risk of damnation and syphilis as a consequence of prostitution was not preferable to virtue bought at the price of jaundice, psoriasis, chronic diarrhoea and the appalling phosphorous rotted jaw acquired as a result of honest work in the match factory.

At the other end of the social scale the Empress Eugenie, wife of Napoleon III, and, it is reputed, the inspiration of the name of the present Princess Eugenie, also had cause to remember the phosphorus in matches. She made a suicide bid by taking a potential overdose of phosphorous matchheads dissolved in milk, after an emotional upset.

Despite its dangers of overdosage or misdosage, phosphorus is an important part of our diet and plays an essential role in the biochemistry of energy metabolism. Its levels can be reduced by *hypothyroidism*, *hyperparathyroidism*, too many diuretic tablets (water pills), starvation, alcoholism, or chronic diarrhoea. Phosphorus competes for absorption with aluminium and thus a surfeit of aluminium-based antacids can also suppress blood levels and cause muscle weakness, low blood pressure, loss of appetite and bone weakening.

Crucial hours



THE DEATH of the five-year-old Emma Harris of bacterial meningitis has reinforced the justifiable dread with which this disease is regarded both by doctors and parents.

The condition of adults with meningitis may deteriorate quickly, but even so there are usually about 24 hours during which the sore throat, headache, photophobia (dislike of light), stiff neck and vomiting become more pronounced and the patient's mental state and level of consciousness regress through irritability to drowsiness and later possibly coma. Search should also be made for the classic purpuric rash — either bruising or blood spots.

If the deterioration in a patient with meningitis is sudden in adults, it is precipitous in children. Dr Jake Mackinnon, a London consultant paediatrician, says: "The diagnosis of early meningitis can be very difficult. The only safe course of action is to exclude meningitis by means of a lumber puncture if the diagnosis so much as crosses your mind. Doubts should always be raised if any child's condition is deteriorating rapidly. Treatment must be started at once, at home."

Dr Mackinnon, like most paediatricians and GPs, always has penicillin ready for immediate injection. If there any doubt about the diagnosis, penicillin should be given at once before transfer to hospital; there is no time to wait for confirmatory tests.

As for the rash, he says that even one blood spot signifies meningococcal septicaemia and means that the patient should be taken quickly to hospital — "after, of course, an immediate penicillin injection has been given".

Dr Trisha Greenhalgh surveys the market for ways of quitting smoking



WILLIAM HARDIE GALLERY

Self-portrait: The Yellow Cigarette by John Byrne. Most ex-smokers "just gave up"

Falling down on giving up

Eighty per cent of smokers regret taking up the habit and intend to quit some day. Up to half a million people in the UK will make this their New Year's resolution. Even though the odds of succeeding are not high — only half will survive the first week without a cigarette, and less than a fifth will abstain in the long term — the cumulative total of ex-smokers in this country has already topped 11 million people. A minority of these attribute their success to techniques such as acupuncture or group therapy, but three-quarters claim that they "just gave up".

If that is the case, is the entire smoking cessation industry — encompassing nicotine replacement, hypnosis, support groups, aversion therapy and more abstruse remedies — anything more than a money-making exercise? Articles in the medical newspaper *Bandolier* and the *British Medical Journal* have recently reviewed this subject.

Nicotine-replacement therapy, NRT, works on the principle that addiction to this drug is what keeps the smoker hooked. Nicotine withdrawal accounts at least in part for many of the symptoms which plague the recent quitter, including headaches, restlessness, cravings, increased appetite and bad temper. People who switch to low-nicotine cigarettes, or use an external filter, generally end up smoking more.

The manufacturers of most NRT products claim a 50 per cent success rate, but the pooled results of over 50 randomised clinical trials, involving more than 5,000 subjects, suggest that only around 20 per cent of smokers will achieve abstinence with NRT, and 10 per cent will succeed with a placebo alone.

Differences in success rates between the different forms of NRT — patches, gum, lozenges, nasal sprays and inhalers — are not marked, but if anything, patches outperform the oral methods. The apparently paradoxical finding that light smokers have less success with NRT than heavy smokers makes sense, since the latter are more likely to be physically addicted to nicotine.

Side-effects, such as sleep disturbance, vivid dreams, nausea and skin rashes, may occur. A few people develop a long-term addiction to the gum; lack of a nicotine "fix" means that this is, theoretically, less likely to occur with the patch. Nicotine gum or lozenges should not be used by anyone with a peptic ulcer, and those with heart disease should consult a doctor before taking any form of NRT. A month's course of patches or gum will cost between £20 and £200, depending on how many you need to alleviate symptoms, and how quickly you manage to cut down.

Non-nicotine replacement products, including menthol and eucalyptus capsules, herbal cigarettes, tobacco-tasting gum, and dummy (usually plastic) cigarettes, are cheaper than NRT but less well evaluated, particularly in relation to long-term success. With the possible exception of menthol and eucalyptus capsules, they are unlikely to alleviate physical withdrawal symptoms. The advantages of these purpose-made, non-nicotine aids over alternatives such as carrots have never been scientifically proven. Psychological therapies, including behavioural methods (rewards and punishments) and individual and group psychotherapy, have generally had poor success in trials. In one study, only two of 44 patients in behavioural therapy managed to quit, compared with seven of 45 patients who were simply advised to give up by their doctor.

Alternative therapies for smoking cessation, the most popular being acupuncture and hypnosis, have little scientific basis — few, if any, controlled clinical trials have shown any advantage over placebo procedures or "just giving up". The recent *Which?* guide to giving up smoking carries a warning for those considering an exotic remedy: "Always be wary of claimed success rates of 90 per cent or more. Experts say that a 40 per cent success rate is the very best that can be expected."

Despite being almost impossible to measure objectively, motivation is widely accepted as being the key to success in smoking cessation. As with any addiction, quitting involves four distinct psychological stages; pre-contemplative (no desire to give up), contemplative (thinking about giving up), active (trying to give up), and maintenance (staying stopped). The Health Education Authority's useful self-help leaflet, Stopping Smoking Made Easier, devotes 18 of its 20 pages to strategies for increasing motivation in each of the four phases.

Increasing the price of cigarettes undoubtedly means that fewer people will smoke them, and this strategy has most effect on those in the poorest sectors of society, in whom the prevalence of smoking approaches 50 per cent. There is also epidemiological evidence that tobacco advertising and sponsorship do not simply induce changes in brand loyalty but encourage non-smokers, particularly children, to take up the habit.

In one study, Reg, the character used in advertisements for Regal cigarettes, was recalled by 91 per cent of 11-15 year olds, but only 56 per cent of 35-55 year olds. Reg has been withdrawn, but the advertising agencies continue to generate macho, chic or humorous images. Today marks the launch of a £12 million National Smoking Education Campaign funded by the Department of Health aimed at getting people to give up. Despite this the Government remains unresponsive to the voice of the British Medical Association asking for a complete ban on tobacco advertising.

If you intend to become a non-smoker as the new year chimes in, and if you are successful at least until Valentine's day, you could make it into the *Guinness Book of Records* as part of the biggest sponsored quit in history.

Details are available by writing to the Get A-Head Appeal, FREEPOST (BM30007) Birmingham BJ6 9BR, or by ringing 0800 665544. Alternatively, phone the Quitline (071-487 3000), which gives free advice.

● *The author is a GP in North London.*

Doctors as ghost-busters

Jeremy Laurance studies Western medical perspectives on possession

The prison chaplain was shaking when he called St Thomas' Hospital. He had just come from the cell of a man whom he had witnessed being possessed by a ghost. The man, a 22-year-old Asian — intelligent, well educated and insightful, westernised in appearance and in apparent outlook — had lived in Britain from the age of six and came from a professional family. His brother was a solicitor.

Periodically he was involved in shoplifting and car theft and had been imprisoned nine times. He said he gained nothing from his criminal behaviour and did not need the things he stole because he received a generous allowance from his family. He claimed that his problems dated from an incident when he was 11 years old, when an aunt who had become jealous of the family's success had fed him and his brother cursed sweet rice. Since then the ghost of an old woman had haunted him, making him do wicked and dangerous things.

He described the moment of possession as a fog that drifted towards him and settled on his chest, making him breathless. Then it entered his nose and mouth, making him retch and wheeze as he resisted. When possessed he could strike fear into those around him, despite being small and slightly built. On his latest crime spree he hijacked a taxi and held the driver hostage for 24 hours, armed only with a penknife. He succeeded, in terrorising the driver and tried to kidnap customers at a service station on the M25.

> A drug worked where priests failed

Writing about the case in *The British Journal of Psychiatry*, Dr Anthony Hale, senior lecturer in psychiatry at St Thomas' Hospital, compared his power to that of the small girl in the film, *The Exorcist*. "That showed that you don't have to be big to be frightening," he says.

Psychiatrists at the hospital were wary at first when the prison chaplain contacted them. Ghost possession does not feature in diagnostic indices and dealing with the supernatural is not their normal stock in trade. What disturbed them was the description the prison chaplain gave of the incident he had witnessed. He had seen a cloud bearing the image of an old woman descend on the man's chest. The man had struggled, choking and retching.

This description was alarmingly close to the account the man himself had earlier given doctors, and of which the prison chaplain denied prior knowledge.

"You always worry whether the wool is being pulled over your eyes. Prisoners often claim they acted while deluded," said Dr Hale. "It was our hospital chaplain who persuaded us. He was convinced from the prison chaplain's account that this was a genuine case."

The psychiatrists prepared to treat what they now accepted was a haunted man. However, this condition does not always indicate illness. According to Dr Hale, it may occur in an otherwise well-adjusted person in a culture with strong beliefs in possession and is normally dealt with by exorcism. Ghost possession is common in India although rare among the professional classes. This patient had undergone exorcism four times with Hindu, Muslim and then Christian priests, none of whom succeeded. Finally, it was the turn of Western medicine.

In reaching a diagnosis, Dr Hale was faced with a dilemma. "You cannot call something a delusion if the cultural belief goes along with it," he says.

He treated the man with an anti-psychotic drug, clopenthixol, which succeeded where exorcism had failed. The possessions ceased. However, the man was recently discharged from the secure unit, failed to take his drugs and the ghost has since resumed its disturbing activities.

In a multi-ethnic psychiatric service, Dr Hale says, possession by a ghost must be considered as a possible diagnosis. "What we have shown is that exorcism-resistant ghost possession can be successfully treated with drugs."

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Be ready for Yeltsin's demise

Chechenia is a last, hopeless gamble, says **Anatol Lieven**

Three years from the end of the Soviet Union, Russian democracy is gravely ill, and the Yeltsin Administration is dying. Boris Yeltsin was in a bad way politically before the Chechen crisis; he took on Chechenia in part as a desperate medicine for this, and the medicine is killing him. But typically, Western governments have not yet realised this.

The Western media and diplomats have so far ignored the political implications of the Chechen crisis. This is is the Yugoslav Syndrome: resolutely ignoring an impending crisis until it actually hits you on the nose. A few Western diplomats in Moscow are trying to warn their governments about what is happening, but no one seems to be listening. This is especially true in Washington, for the last thing the Clinton Administration wants to hear is that it faces another foreign policy crisis.

But consider these facts: even as one flank of the Russian army is reported to be within a few miles of Grozny, another column in Chechenia has effectively mutinied and is refusing to advance. An assembly of officers has vowed to resign *en masse* if their commander is removed. Most of the Russian units on the ground are only pretending to fight the Chechens. Five senior Russian generals have publicly opposed the operation.

On Tuesday, President Yeltsin, finally emerging from his long attempt to escape responsibility by an unnecessary hospital stay, committed himself absolutely to the continuation of the Chechen operation. One of two things will now have to happen soon.

One possibility is that his Administration will indeed be able to bribe, cajole and bully the army on the ground into storming Grozny. Yeltsin would then be able to claim victory, but the price would be very high, both in Russian lives and in loss of Yeltsin's remaining prestige. The army would almost certainly demand the dismissal of defence minister Pavel Grachev and major increases in the military budget. Yeltsin would be drastically weakened.

The other possibility is that the army on the ground refuse to advance against the Chechens, and — cold and demoralised — may even begin a spontaneous withdrawal. In this case, the survival of Yeltsin's Administration could be numbered in days. It seems inconceivable that he could survive such a humiliation.

It is true that in the past, Yeltsin has bounced back from many severe defeats, but in the past he had the support both of Russian public opinion and of highly motivated, relatively popular political forces from the ranks of the "democrats" and reformers. The army was politically neutral, and in a last resort would have backed the President.

None of this is the case now. Since Yeltsin destroyed the old parliamentary opposition last year, he has had to take full responsibility for the state of the country, and his popularity has plummeted. Today, according to the latest opinion polls, some 75 per cent of Russians oppose his government.

As for the "democrats", they have been crushed by Russian democracy. Like their equivalents elsewhere in the former communist world, they have been blamed for every present suffering, and were heavily defeated in the parliamentary election a year ago. Since then, a series of regional elections has seen them virtually obliterated. In the latest of these, in Krasnodar, they failed to win a single seat. Nationalists, Communists, and a local bureaucratic grouping swept the board.

Faced with this proof of the "democrats'" weakness, Yeltsin has progressively abandoned them. Instead, he has been trying to set up a mildly authoritarian regime based on support from "centrists" political forces, the old bureaucratic and managerial élite, and above all, the army, police and intelligence services.

This policy conforms to the President's own basic predilections and those of a man who increasingly seems to control him, his security chief, General Alexander Korzhakov. The President is old, in pain, desperately tired, and increasingly given to drink. Not unnaturally, he is reverting to a previous pattern of his life, that of the old authoritarian Communist Party regional boss. Seeing this, more and more of his erstwhile democratic supporters are turning to vehement opposition.

> Most likely the West will be rudely awakened, as if no one saw it coming

A turn to some kind of authoritarianism is probably inevitable in Russia: but it is far too late for Yeltsin himself to impose this. His prestige has been fatally undermined by his failed economic policies, his public drinking, the growing perception that he is a puppet of a clique in his entourage, and now by the Chechen debacle.

Any authoritarian regime depends in the last resort on its army; the Russian army increasingly opposes Yeltsin, so Yeltsin is doomed.

Exactly how his fall will come cannot be predicted. One relatively positive way would be for a covert coalition of military and bureaucratic forces to present the President in private with an ultimatum to step down. He could then be replaced by a neutral and pragmatic figure such as the Duma Speaker, Ivan Rybkin, or Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin. But much worse outcomes are plausible.

The West must be prepared. In the words of a senior diplomat, "What we need is steady Western interest and concern, not indifference followed by hysterical over-reaction". At the moment, what looks more probable is that Western policymakers will once again awake with a rude start, grope blindly for their trousers in the dark and rush half-dressed into the street while American public opinion shrieks hysterically at them from the sidewalk.

Rather than gilding the gingerbread, says **John Grigg**, honours should recognise neglected merit

Who deserves to be honoured?

Twice a year hundreds of our fellow-citizens are honoured, and most deserve the titles or gongs they receive, though there are always a few dubious cases. But there are others who are perennially overlooked or given absurdly short measure, and also whole groups which the system fails to recognise.

Among individuals, one who comes immediately to mind is the veteran historian A.L. Rowse, 91 earlier this month. His large body of work, mainly on the Tudor period, includes many admirable and important books. His contribution to history began with *Sir Richard Grenville of the Revenge* and *Tudor Cornwall*, both published before the Second World War, and has continued over the ensuing decades. He has also written essays, poems, and volumes of autobiography. Beyond question, he is an outstanding historian and a notable character.

Yet while peerages, knighthoods, OMs and CHs have been showered on comparable or inferior historians, he has received no award of any kind from the sovereign or the State. (The distinction has to be made, because while honours are all given in the Queen's name, most are are given on prime ministerial or ministerial recommendation. But those given by the Queen herself include the most prestigious of all, the OM.)

Another man of advanced age (86) who has not yet appeared in an honours list is James Lees-Milne. Recognition is overdue for his services to the National Trust, quite apart from his substantial merits as an author. Appointed first secretary of the Trust's country house committee in 1936, he played a vital part in the development of one of our most cherished institutions. Dame Jennifer Jenkins, in her recent book on the Trust (*From Acorn to Oak Tree*, written with Patrick James), says that without his energy, enthusiasm and understanding the country-house scheme, under which so many owners have been persuaded to give their houses, with suitable endowment, "might well have died at birth": "His strong historical sense and his appreciation of architecture enabled him to give direction to the instincts of the leaders of the Trust". He deserves at least a knighthood.

A different sort of pioneer is Richard Carr-Gomm, whose social conscience and originality have given us the Abbeyfield Society, the Carr-Gomm Society and the Morpeth Society. In 1985 he received the OBE, but this seems grossly inadequate recognition for what he has done — the kind of creative work that seldom happens except on the initiative of some inspired individual.

Showbiz is, in general, quite well treated by the honours system, but knighthoods have been awarded to less good actors than Paul Scofield, who has had nothing since his CBE in 1956. In sport, a conspicuously meritorious figure is Kenny Dalgleish, whom many would consider worthy of more than his MBE.

The MBE is also too little for Kaye Webb, who, as the creator of Puffin Books, shaped the reading habits of a generation. She should be a dame.

So much for known individuals — though many more could be mentioned. But the honours system should exist also, perhaps principally, to do justice to those who are otherwise not known, doing work of great value in obscure and difficult situations, at beggarly rates of pay.

One category on which attention should be focused is that of state-school teachers in areas of deprivation. Anyone who achieves outstanding results in such circumstances is worthy of a knighthood or a damehood. Yet the highest honours in the educational field seem to go only to professors, university administrators and the heads of Oxbridge colleges and major public schools.

Indeed, the system as a whole strikingly illustrates the truth of Christ's comment that more is given to those who already have. In the National Health Service, the principal honorands are likely to be those who already have big financial "merit awards", while the hard-pressed nurse or young doctor — the equivalent of a platoon commander on the Somme — is neither honoured nor properly paid.

Instead of providing an alternative hierarchy of merit to set against success in business and other forms of worldly achievement, the honours system largely sets its seal upon the latter. It does not discover exceptional merit and bring it emphatically to the public notice, but adds lustre to those who already have plenty of power and lucre.

The lists should be broken down into occupational categories, so that the scale of honours both within them and between them could be more clearly grasped. At present the only categories shown separately are the armed forces and the diplomatic service. Why not also have separate lists for, among other things, health, education, social service, the police, the arts, charitable work and local government?

A thorough reform of the system will be possible only when its inequities and illogicalities are fully understood; and that in turn depends on clearer presentation.

1995: Annus mirabilis

It's amazing how the country could be transformed in a single year of innovation



The newspapers this week are so full of reviews of 1994 that I felt it would save time to fast-forward to a review of 1995, a much better year, on which we shall look back with exhilaration. There has never been a Christmas like 1995. One had to fight one's way through smartly dressed crowds in Oxford Street, women in their crinolines, the men in their frock coats. In Bond Street, Asprey's sold out a limited edition of 501 equestrian statues of John Major in silver, as well as five in gold, inside one shopping day. The silver statues were priced at £25,000 in the old currency and the gold at £995,000, just leaving change out of £1 million to buy one of those Romanov astrakhan smoking jackets which have become such high fashion.

The great British miracle all started with John Major's snap reshuffle in February, which showed a boldness of vision nobody had expected of him. He switched Kenneth Clarke and Chris Patten; in a master stroke Clarke was sent to Hong Kong and Patten was made Chancellor of the Exchequer, with one simple instruction, to remodel the British economy on that of Hong Kong. He was to cut taxes, cut spending, encourage savings and emphasise the virtues of family loyalty and personal responsibility. Patten declared his policy to be one of Confucian Christianity.

Mr Clarke took to Hong Kong his well established reputation for cheerful diplomacy. When he performed the karaoke at the wedding of Deng Xiao Ping's great-granddaughter, it was seen that he had achieved a dramatic breakthrough in Anglo-Chinese relations. What has since been called karaoke diplomacy seems to have assured the democratic future of Hong Kong under Chinese rule.

The second master stroke was John Major's great speech to the electors of Huntingdon, of which well over one million copies have been sold in pamphlet form. He explained that the reconstruction of his Government required him to find a seat for Chris Patten in the House of Commons. "I have been advised that mine is the safest Conservative seat in the country, perhaps the only one which could be held in present circumstances. I have decided therefore to relinquish my own seat in the House of Commons, and am going to the House of Lords. Britain has never been so strong or so prosperous as under the leadership of my great Victorian predecessor the Marquis of Salisbury. I have therefore decided to restore the traditional good fortune of our beloved country by accepting a hereditary title. After consultation with the Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands, I am taking the title of the Marquis of Maastricht to remind myself for all time of the greatest public disaster for which I have been responsible."

After the Hong Kong programme, as it came to be called, was announced, Chris Patten was elected by a substantially increased majority as the member for Huntingdon. The highest rate of income tax was immediately reduced to 15 per cent. John Major proved to be ideally suited to the reflective tone of House of Lords debates. Indeed he enjoyed such an advantage on television that his popularity rating soared to 83.5 per cent, and Tony Blair was forced to petition for a peerage for himself so that the Labour Party should not be at the disadvantage of having its leader in the House of Commons. Mr Blair was made a viscount, as it was widely felt than an earldom would be too grand a title for so young a man. At the same time Douglas Hurd was also promoted to the House of Lords, while remaining Foreign Secretary, thus decisively tipping the balance of government into the better place. The constitutional powers of the two Houses were restored to their pre-1910 status.

The Marquis of Maastricht also proceeded to a vigorous reconciliation of all sections of his own party. He took the view that Hugh Dykes, the leading Euro-fanatic, had been on the back benches far too long, and made him the new Minister of Agriculture with a special mission to negotiate fishing rights with the Spanish. Lord Tebbit was persuaded to return to his old post as chairman of the Conservative Party. The whip was restored to the nine rebels, and Teresa Gorman was appointed Minister of State at the Foreign Office, with special responsibility for European affairs.

The brilliant economic and political recovery which followed these changes made Britain the rising star of Europe. The chairman of the Bundesbank made a formal proposal — the Edict of Frankfurt — that the Community should adopt Isaac Newton's gold pound of 1717 as the European standard. All the European currencies are now to be convertible into gold at 3.89375 to the ounce. This reform will take effect in January 1996, after which date all European transactions will be settled in gold pounds or their equivalent. After this announcement, the average rate of inflation in the European Community fell to 0.27 per cent, though it is feared that Silvio Berlosconi's third administration will have some difficulty in meeting the convergence requirements. Chancellor Kohl was so delighted by this decision that he commented "Der jung Major, er ist ein Mann".

Elsewhere in the world, politicians have experienced very mixed fortunes. Edouard Balladur was, as expected, elected president of France. He proposed the series of regular tripartheid meetings between Britain, France and Germany which have become the effective government of Europe. It was his proposal that the three countries should always cast their votes together, so effectively restoring the veto to each of them. It has opened the way for a new spirit of optimism in the European Community, which has never looked to the future with such confidence.

In Russia the return of the Romanov family to the throne in July, with General Kondratiev — believed to be a relative of the great Russian economist of the same name — as Prime Minister, could restore peace and prosperity. The Chechens and other Islamic tribes have been given their independence, on the newly adopted principle that Russia is a Christian monarchy, unwilling to admit non-Christian provinces.

The retired President Yeltsin and the retired President Gorbachev have been made Grand Dukes, with private apartments overlooking the Winter Palace in St Petersburg, and pensions of one million gold roubles each. President Gore has done much to restore confidence in the United States, though his decision to appoint his cousin, Gore Vidal, as the United States's minister to the Vatican, was not well received in conservative Catholic quarters. In next month's New Hampshire primaries, it is expected that Senator Phil Gramm of Texas will defeat a strong Republican list, including Senator Dole, the majority leader, and governor Wilson of California.

It is, however, the economic and political miracle in Britain which has made London the focal point of world comment. "The British have rediscovered themselves," reports *The New York Times*. "They have rediscovered their traditions, their culture, their habit of work, the ability to take the world by surprise. They have found new liberty in reasserting their old institutions. In 1995 they have proved the most innovative and the most successful nation on earth. With the lowest tax rates and the highest savings rates, the highest productivity, the strongest balance of payments and the most stable currency in the Group of Seven nations, Britain is indeed riding high. So of course is the Conservative Party, strongly expected to win another term of office in 1996 and eminently deserving to do so." From Japan the *Asahi Shimbun* sends respectful salutations to the other great offshore island. Over Christmas, the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* had a front-page story about Britain's golden year, which compared the Marquis of Maastricht to Goethe.

For a columnist, it is a joy to look back on Britain's triumphant experience of 1995, after having to record the confusions and disappointments of so many previous years. Who would have thought, at the end of December 1994 — only a short year ago — that Britain could so triumphantly break out of her political, economic and European difficulties? I am happy to take back any past criticism I have made of John Major, Marquis of Maastricht: he has unquestionably been the outstanding world leader of 1995.

William Rees-Mogg

Final act

THE FAMILIES of Oscar Wilde and the Marquess of Queensberry are to be publicly reconciled, a century after they fell out so spectacularly when the playwright was incarcerated in Reading Gaol after being found guilty of homosexual acts. The case arose from the Marquess of Queensberry's fury about Wilde's relationship with his son, Lord Alfred Douglas.

Next week, however, Wilde's grandson and the present marquess, David Queensberry, will gather with their respective families in London for a ceremony to unveil a plaque to the Irish wit.

The ceremony will be performed by Sir John Gielgud at the Theatre Royal in the Haymarket, where *A Woman of No Importance* and *An Ideal Husband* were first acted. Gielgud has just been appointed president of the Oscar Wilde Society of Japan.

With the approach of the anniversary, discreet contact has been made between the Wilde and Queensberry families. The Marquess has joined Britain's Oscar Wilde Society, and his daughter, the actress Lady Alice Douglas, introduced him to Wilde's grandson, Merlin Holland, over lunch.

"I was working in prisons, where it is quite cool to come from the family that introduced the Queensberry rules for boxing," she explains. "The guys inside wanted to understand about my history — that's how I became interested."

● *Lord Archer was cheery yesterday despite his car crash — and he seems to be in from the political cold to boot. "I'm fine. No cuts and bruises at all," he told me. "The first person to call to see if we were alright was the Prime Minister. The second was the Home Secretary. That's what real friends are for."*



DIARY

Or try this

AFTER my report last week of a shortage of *boeuf bouillon*, the core ingredient of that infamous club-land hangover cure the Bullshot, readers have rushed to the rescue.

A letter from a titled lady gives details of a fool-proof home-made recipe: "Place a large slice of stewing steak flat in the bottom of a 12-pint pan. Add a whole carrot, onion, leek, stick of celery and pour on cold water. Then add cloves and a bay leaf. Bring to the boil and leave to simmer for about three hours. Add madeira (or vodka) to taste." That should blow off all the year's cobwebs.

Palace coo!

NEW YEAR champagne corks have been popping a little early among the estate agents of Hampstead. An unusually extravagant house, with 11 bedrooms, 13 bathrooms and gilded loo-roll-holders in the shape of swans' heads, has been sold after more than four years of marketing and a price drop of about £6 million.

Savills, the estate agent, refuses to comment on the sale of the Summer Palace, but I understand the mansion has gone to an Egyptian. The diamond-shaped, Roman-style villa was first put on the market in the spring of 1990 for £12.5 million. There were few takers despite the attractions of a heart-shaped swimming pool surrounded by fake grass in the basement, and a brass-and-glass lift running through the middle of the house. "It may be vulgar to some minds," comments a local builder. "But the house is certainly pretty grand. It's got more Jacuzzis than you can imagine."

Rose gardens

NATIONAL TRUST visitors may have been puzzled by the furtive behaviour of the army of gardeners during 1994. It has come to light that a covert operation to plant hundreds of specially bred rose bushes in the gardens of Trust properties has been implemented. The plan is for the centenary rose to burst into riotous bloom next year.

Rose breeders took seven years to develop the rose, in an old-fashioned style and a luscious pink, which is called Octavia Hill after the social worker who helped to found the Trust in 1895. "There was a huge project throughout 1994 to plant swaths of it in various National Trust gardens for the anniversary year," says a spokeswoman. An idea of what is to come can be seen at Ickworth House in Suffolk, the former home of the wayward Marquess of Bristol, where the Trust has been experimenting with its rose in the open.

Last course

WITH the death of the octogenarian Fanny Cradock, Britain has lost the most outspoken of television cookery stars. The bejewelled culinary phenomenon remained as uncompromising as ever into her dotage, and she left a generation of admirers behind the stove.

"She was infinitely watchable, whatever you thought of the mad way she did it all," says Prue Leith of Leith's restaurant in West London. "And she cooked wearing all those extraordinary clothes and diamonds. She was the Keith Floyd of her day, but I have never found a recipe of hers that worked."

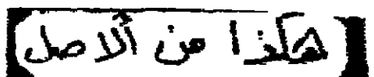
Floyd is flattered by the comparison. "She was first-class," he told me from his pub in Devon amid raucous celebrations for his 51st birthday. "I was probably ten when I first saw her on black-and-white television. It was compulsive."

P·H·S



In Cradock's footsteps: Leith and Floyd





هكذا من الأصل

ALGERIE FRANÇAISE

France may have ended the hijack: Algeria is still hostage

The storming of the hijacked French aircraft and the rescue of its passengers was a singular triumph for the French Government. Yet scarcely had the glow of success died down that four Catholic priests were murdered by Islamic extremists: revenge in Algeria is as swift as it is savage. Alain Juppè, the French Foreign Minister, declared himself publicly to be "convinced, unhappily, that the solution to the Algerian drama is not close". M Juppé is only right in part: not only is a solution "not close", it is further away than before.

Careful thought was given by its perpetrators, no doubt, to the timing of the hijacking: it took place on the third anniversary, almost to the day, of the first round of Algeria's legislative elections, in which the the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) polled more votes than any other party. In an act for which Algeria is still paying a bloody price, the country's military junta cancelled the second round of polling and declared a state of emergency. The emergency, still in force, has not prevented the loss of an estimated 25,000 lives this year alone, with 800 more killed each week.

Algeria's civil war is being fought between remorseless Islamic organisations (such as the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), which carried out the Christmas Air France hijack) and a brutal, corrupt and unelected military government. Its opposition to an Islamic takeover of Algeria is the declared *raison d'être* of General Liamine Zeroual's ruling junta. It has been this dimension, and no other, which has determined the policy towards Algeria of the French Government since January 1992. Deaf to the arguments of Washington, which has consistently favoured a course of negotiation with the FIS, and to those of Madrid — which finds France's unstinting support for the Zeroual regime distasteful — Paris has preferred to support the policy of "eradication" currently pursued by military hardliners in Algiers.

This is a monumental error, for it fails to take acount of any long-term prospects of a solution in tune with Algerian realities. The Islamic forces are winning because, clearly, they are not losing: and the military regime is losing because it has no proof of success other than the fact that it is still in tenuous control. The ease with which the hijackers effected their seizure of the aircraft at Algiers airport, however, suggests more than a mere failure of security. There is evidence of growing "majority tolerance" of Algeria's Islamic forces — to use a phrase employed by Gerry Adams in the Northern Irish context.

Paris has scoffed at America's approach as naive, and has dismissed it as the well-meaning intervention of a party too far removed from the crisis to understand its realities. But the French are, by similar reasoning, too close to it. It is extraordinary that the country's Algeria policy should be entrusted more to Charles Pasqua, the Interior Minister, than to M Juppé, its Foreign Minister. M Pasqua has ensured that Paris, far from distancing itself from the Zeroual regime, has instead thrown its weight behind Algeria's sterile search for a military solution. This is no doubt because the spectre of Algeria, and of its disconcerting *intégrisme*, will play a prominent role in the French Presidential elections in May.

The French Government regards the civil war in Algeria, first and foremost, as a problem for France. Its desire to prop up the Zeroual regime is dictated not by a sense of what is good for Algeria but by what is good for France. There can, of course, be no dialogue with the GIA, whose murderous methods place them beyond the reach of reason. The continued refusal to treat with the FIS, however, has produced little of merit. It is not impossible to sympathise with M Balladur; but his domestic priorities, and those of M Pasqua, do mean that little light is likely to be shone on Algeria from Paris.

THE REAL MIRACLE DRUG

March 1955: the discoverer of pencillin died

In the history of medicine, moments of revelation are disappointingly few. Less separates us from the horrors of the 19th century than we might wish, or half believe. Take away public hygiene and antibiotics, and we would soon find ourselves struggling against a resurgence of infectious disease, as helpless to save our children from an early death as were our great-grandparents.

Yet penicillin, the drug that really did work a miracle, is barely half a century old. Alexander Fleming, who made the original discovery, died 40 years ago, in March 1955: his Nobel Prize for Medicine, shared with Howard Florey and Ernst Chain, was awarded 50 years ago, in 1945, at the end of the war that had proved penicillin such a life-saver.

The discovery of penicillin is a tale so often told that it has now fallen prey to the revisionists. They assert that the greater credit is due to the Oxford team of Florey, Chain, and Norman Heatley, rather than to Fleming, and that only the tireless efforts of St Mary's, Paddington, ensured that Fleming emerged *primus inter pares*. A search through the archives lends them some support, for when *The Times* first offered an editorial opinion of the merits of penicillin, on August 27, 1942, no credit was given to its discoverer. But the ink was barely dry before we were publishing a letter from the eminent pathologist Sir Almroth Wright of St Mary's — caricatured by Bernard Shaw as Sir Colenso Rigeon in *The Doctor's Dilemma* — awarding the laurel wreath to Fleming. "He is the discoverer of penicillin and was the author of the original suggestion that this substance might prove to have important applications in medicine," Sir Almroth asserted. What cemented Fleming's claim in the public mind were the circumstances of the discovery: a culture plate left out in the laboratory, an open window, the happy accident of contamination by the mould *Penicillium notatum*. Fleming deduced that some substance from the mould was killing mature staphlococci, a mistake as it later turned out. Penicillin acts only against growing bacteria, which means that Fleming's plate must have been contaminated with mould *before* the bacteria were inoculated on to it.

Yet the fact remains that Fleming did notice something strange, and drew the right conclusions. He failed to isolate the active agent, and tentative clinical trials produced no evidence of penicillin's wonderful properties. Not until the Oxford workers took up the hunt a decade later was the drug proved the life-saver of the century; and even they had to give best to the United States when mass-production was required. In fact, it is now known that another researcher, Cecil Paine, had given crude penicillin to patients in Sheffield several years earlier, but had never published his results.

What this proves is that scientific discovery is seldom as tidy as it seems. Luck, instinct, and the prepared mind are needed to make sense of confusion; and sometimes even the greatest discoveries lie around waiting for somebody with the wit to pick them up. This is as true today as it was half a century ago: we need both Flemings and Floreys if we are to keep the darkness at bay.

LONDON FIELDS OF VISION

The capital needs a film commission

From the Ealing comedies to *The Long Good Friday*, film-makers have always been been absorbed by London, its skyline and its citizens. More than three-quarters of the country's movie and television production already takes place in the capital. Yet is clear that some film companies are still deterred from shooting in London by red tape. For this reason, the new proposals for a London film commission reported today by our Arts Correspondent deserve to be taken seriously by central and local government.

"By seeing London," said Dr Johnson, "I have seen as much of life as the world can show." Writers have long appreciated this, treading happily in each other's footsteps on the cobbled streets of the capital. The mantle of Pepys and Dickens has been readily assumed by modern chroniclers of the city such as Peter Ackroyd, Michael Moorcock and Martin Amis. It is intriguing, however, that no film-maker has performed a comparable role for London as cinematic *auteur* and diarist. Hanif Kureishi may have his fans, but he is no Woody Allen. No London film-maker has produced a homage to the city to match *Manhattan* or *Annie Hall*.

To suggest that this cultural gap is the result of bureaucracy alone would be fanciful. But there can be no doubt that the capital would benefit from a single office — a "one-stop-shop" — to which film companies could apply when seeking a location. Because there has been no metropolitan authority since the abolition of the Greater London Council, prospective film-makers have to deal with up to 33 different town halls, as well as local police forces and the highway department. In this respect, London is far behind competitor cities such as Los Angeles. Other British towns, including Bath, Bangor, Norwich and Sheffield, have been far more enterprising in setting up film commissions or comparable procedures. It is time for the capital to follow suit.

The purpose of the commission would be to minimise inconvenience to residents and — as far as possible — to assist the ambitions of film-makers. In part, this would involve the provision of information about suitable locations and the availability of technical services. It would also require sound relations between the commission and all the relevant authorities in London. The scale of this task should not be underestimated by those who would undertake it.

The rewards of success, however, would be considerable. One Hollywood movie shot in London can bring £25 million of inward investment. The more the city is seen on silver screens around the world, furthermore, the better for its commercial image. Too often, calls for help from the arts world amount to little more than a demand for public subsidy. This proposal, in contrast, would facilitate private investment and help to maximise the business potential of a city that is one of the nation's greatest cultural assets. London should be the cinematic capital of the next century.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Controversy over the dating of Saint Matthew's Gospel

From Professor Graham Stanton

Sir, I am astonished that *The Times* has been taken in by Dr Carsten Thiede's claims concerning papyrus fragments of Matthew's Gospel kept at Magdalen College, Oxford, since 1901 (report, article and leading article, December 24; interview, December 26). These fragments have been studied by several leading papyrologists and New Testament scholars since their publication in 1953. Experts do not always agree about the dating of early Christian papyri, but in this case they have spoken with one voice: the fragments are from the end of the second century, more probably the third century.

The arguments advanced by Dr Thiede in favour of a mid-first century dating do nothing to disturb this consensus. Indeed his reported views on the importance of the Magdalen College fragments for the origins of Christianity do not inspire confidence. His claims concerning the very early date and alleged eyewitness character of Matthew's Gospel will not merit serious discussion by specialists.

This is not the first time Dr Thiede has been involved in scholarly controversy. On March 16, 1972, *The Times* reported on its front page a claim that a fragment of Mark's Gospel had been found among the Dead Sea Scrolls at Qumran. This claim was widely discussed and rejected by specialists, but Dr Thiede incorporated it in 1986 into a German book designed for a wide readership which was translated into English (*The Earliest Gospel Manuscript?*) in 1992. As with the Magdalen College fragments of Matthew's Gospel, Dr Thiede drew a set of speculative conclusions concerning the origins of Christianity which were based largely on his unlikely readings of damaged letters in tiny fragments of papyrus.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM STANTON (Professor of New Testament Studies),
King's College London,
Strand, WC2.

From Mr A. J. Bradley

Sir, What a joy to read, in your Christmas Eve edition, of the research of Dr Thiede which dates the Magdalen papyrus fragment of Matthew's Gospel such that it could have been written by eyewitnesses of the life of Jesus Christ.

Granted the theory still has to be tested by others in this specialised field, but how wonderfully positive at this Christmas time, to hear information that vindicates what Christians have believed since Christ walked this earth, rather than the contentious questioning of Christian doctrine by certain Anglican bishops.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. BRADLEY,
14 Greenhalgh Moss Lane,
Tottington,
Bury, Lancashire.
December 24.

From Dr Edmund I. Marshall

Sir, The significance of the new information about the Magdalen papyrus fragments of the manuscript of Matthew's Gospel lies more in the earlier dating of the fragments, making them very likely the oldest extant remnants of the original manuscripts of the New Testament, rather than in adding to the actual authenticity of the Gospels.

For it has long been recognised, as your leading article says, that the first Gospel to be written was not Matthew, but Mark. Indeed some 606 verses in Matthew are copied, closely if not identically, from Mark, including the extracts on the Magdalen fragments. While it is doubtful that Matthew's Gospel was compiled by Matthew the apostle, there has been general traditional agreement that the author of Mark's Gospel is indeed Mark, the confidant of Peter (see 1 Peter v, 13), and probably the young man mentioned in Mark xiv, 51-2. The simple narrative style of Mark's Gospel points to its being based on eyewitness accounts, of either Peter or Mark himself.

Hence the authenticity of much of Matthew's Gospel is derived from the authenticity of Mark's. The new dating of the Magdalen papyrus, while fascinating, in no way alters that dependence.

Yours faithfully,
EDMUND MARSHALL
(Vice-President,
Methodist Conference, 1992-93),
14 Belgravia Road,
Wakefield, West Yorkshire.
December 28.

From Mr Ian Wilson

Sir, How much Dr Thiede's discovery would have meant to Dr John Robinson, the former Bishop of Woolwich, who died in 1983.

Although best known for his controversial *Honest to God* (1963), in his *Redating the New Testament* (1976) John Robinson argued with typically rigorous scholarship for Matthew's Gospel, even in its Greek form (tradition says there was an earlier Hebrew one), having been written when established Judaism and very early Christianity were existing side-by-side. Like Dr Thiede, John Robinson therefore dated the Matthew Gospel before the fall of Jerusalem in AD 70, and most likely in the period between AD 40 and 60. Although 20 years ago his arguments fell on largely deaf ears, they must surely now be regarded with far greater seriousness in the light of Dr Thiede's findings.

So far as I am aware, John Robinson did not know of the Magdalen papyrus. Nor did I, despite having lived in Magdalen College as an undergraduate between 1960 and 1963. How many more such items are sitting under our very noses without their existence being known and their significance realised?

Yours faithfully,
IAN WILSON
(Author, *Jesus: The Evidence*),
Sneyd Park House,
Goodeve Road, Bristol, Avon.
December 24.

Funding blow for wildlife in Wales

From the Chief Executive of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and others

Sir, On December 15 John Redwood, the Secretary of State for Wales, announced a 17.6 per cent cut in the budget of the main body responsible for wildlife conservation in Wales. The Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) was formed only three years ago by the merger of the Countryside Commission and the Nature Conservancy Council. It is incredible that a body so young in life, which has already proved itself on the conservation stage in Wales, should be so treated.

Additionally, the Welsh Office performance in providing guidance to local authorities in managing environmental affairs falls behind the Department of the Environment in England. Such a lack-lustre display coupled with the treatment of the CCW does not bode well for the Welsh people's wildlife and countryside.

We fail to see, and Mr Redwood has not given any indication, how his actions can have any effect other than greatly to reduce the level of environmental management in Wales.

Yours faithfully,
BARBARA S. YOUNG,
Chief Executive, The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds,
ROBIN PELLEW,
Director, World Wide Fund for Nature — UK,
TIM SANDS,
Director of Conservation for The Wildlife Trusts,
c/o The Lodge,
Sandy, Bedfordshire.
December 23.

Listed house

From the Secretary of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (UK)

Sir, Following the letter from the Chairman of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings on December 22 (also letter, December 28), Icomos UK has expressed its concern to the Secretary of State for Wales and the Secretary of State for National Heritage over the plans to demolish the grade II listed medieval house in Palace Street, Caernarvon.

The house lies within the protected World Heritage monument of the walls of Caernarvon, and its disappearance would detract from the overall integrity of the monument.

We deplore the planned demolition in a World Heritage Site without the formality of a public inquiry, and suggest the Secretary of State for Wales should consider suspending the demolition to allow further consideration.

Yours faithfully,
F. N. GOLDING, Secretary,
International Council on Monuments and Sites (UK),
10 Barley Mow Passage, W4.
December 28.

Fewer and better?

From Mr David Trench

Sir, When is this small island going to acknowledge that 300 MPs are sufficient to represent its people? Let us then double salaries, attract the best and insist on no outside interests. We would save support costs of bureaucracy and expenses.

No MP, MEP or local councillor should take his or her seat unless over half of the electoral constituency turn up to vote: further savings. After all, we have a Civil Service, Eurocrats and executive officers to run day-to-day affairs and auditors to check for probity and efficiency.

If we are to conquer the snake we should go for the head and not the tail.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID TRENCH,
Trench Farrow & Partners
(Project management consultants),
13 Chapter Street,
Westminster, SW1.
December 27.

Shelved diploma

From Sir John Cassels, Director of the National Commission on Education

Sir, It's amazing that ministers have now decided to shelve the general diploma, the introduction of which they announced only a few months ago in the White Paper on competitiveness. Your report today makes it clear that producer interests (ie, the teaching unions and the examination boards) were against the idea.

What about parents and students? And small businesses?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN CASSELS, Director,
National Commission on Education,
344-354 Gray's Inn Road, WC1.
December 22.

Child support changes

From Mr Peter G. Jones

Sir, I refer to the announcement from the Child Support Agency that it is to defer assessment on 350,000 of its most difficult cases (report, December 22). This is a further disaster in a litany of chaotic failures.

The existence of the agency was ostensibly to pursue errant fathers, to improve on the county court system and to benefit the welfare of children. There was the additional value, not as enthusiastically published, to gain substantial income for the Government.

For these reasons an investment was made in the agency in excess of £175 million. What is now the result? Assessments in some cases are difficult; surely that was anticipated. Now the decision is to put them to one side. The mother is abandoned without any opportunity to pursue her claim, and the very fathers at whom the Act was originally directed will now escape their moral and legal responsibility.

This appalling decision in my view destroys the foundation on which the agency was created and the time has come to bring its existence to an end. We must go back to improving the previous system, and return the jurisdiction to the county courts where the assessment of maintenance may be made with sanity and efficiency.

Yours faithfully,
PETER G. JONES
(Chairman, Solicitors Family Law Association, 1991-93),
(Partner), Jones Myers (solicitors),
Pearl Chambers, 22 East Parade,
Leeds, West Yorkshire.

Insurance and HIV

From Mr P. M. Roth

Sir, The issue of insurance questions about HIV testing involves a long and troubling saga. As the Director General of the Association of British Insurers accuses your leading article of December 15 of being misleading (letter, December 21), it is unfortunate that he gives such a one-sided account of what happened.

The Terrence Higgins Trust campaigned for four years to persuade insurers to give up the disgraceful practice whereby British insurers (unlike their US or Canadian counterparts) asked everyone applying for life insurance whether they had taken an HIV test even if the result was negative. It was established that the use of this information in underwriting deterred significant numbers of people from taking the test; nonetheless, all attempts, including those of the Department of Health, to persuade the insurers to ask instead only about positive tests proved unsuccessful.

It was only last July, when the introduction of a private member's Bill in Parliament that would have compelled such a change was imminent and gathering wide support, that the ABI finally issued a new statement of practice to that effect.

Such a change, although it has come very late, is nonetheless to be welcomed. Of more concern is the fact that many major life insurers are still using proposal forms that ask about prior negative as well as positive HIV tests — a form of question that the ABI now proscribes. If that continues much longer, legislation may be needed after all.

Yours faithfully,
P. M. ROTH (Chairman,
Insurance Working Party),
Terrence Higgins Trust,
4 Raymond Buildings,
Gray's Inn, WC1.
December 21.

Height of rudeness

From Mr John Crofts

Sir, Now we all know what sort of minister Mr Rod Richards is — he uses the word "short" as a pejorative in his comments about Welsh Labour councillors (report, December 21). I bet he has a marker on his office doorpost to assess the worth of those who enter. The average journalist at least refines his denigration by using "diminutive".

From where I stand, some of the nastiest people I have met (eg, Robert Maxwell) have been tall, but the English language seems to be deficient in insults to aim at their height.

"Gangling", "lanky", and "beanpole" all carry endearing images.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN CROFTS (5ft 4in),
Rutlands,
The Towers, Lorton Road,
Cockermouth, Cumbria.
December 22.

Poles in Hungary

From Mr Gyorgy Nagy

Sir, Your obituary of General Stanislaw Maczek (December 13) stated that, after the collapse of the Polish Army in September 1939, General Maczek's brigade "crossed the Hungarian frontier, where it was interned". In fact, he and his men, with many other Polish military and civil personnel, obtained a *pro forma*, rather than a *de facto* internment in Hungary. You could call it friendly hospitality *ad interim*.

Two leading officials of the Hungarian Home Office, Mr Jozsef Antal (father of the first Hungarian prime minister in the post-Communist era, whose obituary you printed on December 13, 1993) and Mr Laszlo Osvath, with the silent approval of the Hungarian Government, organised the transfer of tens of thousands of Polish servicemen to Yugoslavia, gradually and in small groups, behind the Germans' backs. Thus they were enabled to join the Allied armies to fight the Germans on several fronts of the Second World War.

Yours faithfully,
GYORGY NAGY,
5 Hamlet Square, NW1.

Business letters, page 25

Letters for publication may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

Lottery gamble

From Mr Henry Burke

Sir, May we correct a possible misunderstanding which the headline of your report, "Theatre's gamble on lottery falls flat" (later editions, December 20), may have caused.

The lottery bid — an attempt to raise the remaining £330,000 needed to complete the project of creating a new professional repertory theatre for Norwich — was made by a syndicate of 167 members consisting largely of supporters of the Playhouse, who gambled with their own money, not with funds donated to the appeal. Norwich Playhouse is a registered charity and therefore could not, and did not, gamble on the lottery. The appeal will in fact now be £803 better off as a result of the syndicate's generosity in donating 50 per cent of its winnings.

Yours sincerely,
HENRY BURKE
(Managing Director),
Norwich Playhouse,
Gun Wharf, 42-58 St George Street,
Norwich, Norfolk.

From Mr Stephen A. B. Parish

Sir, Can one insure against winning the lottery (letters, December 17, etc)?

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN PARISH,
Monkmoor, Beechwood Avenue,
Weybridge, Surrey.

Musical future

From Mr Jeremy James Taylor

Sir, Matt Wolf ("Time to send in the clones", December 12) will be pleased to know that there is indeed hope for the future of British musical theatre. He refers to Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's publicly expressed concern for the current state of play, but perhaps he does not realise that Sir Andrew is even now investing very considerably in the future through his generous and energetic support for the National Youth Music Theatre.

New work is the staple diet of the NYMT and has been for almost 20 years. Indeed Richard Taylor, the young composer of *Whistle Down the Wind* which has just opened at the Riverside Studios in Hammersmith — and won high praise in your columns ("Young wonders", Arts, December 28) — is not only currently working on his fourth commission for the company but is also a member of the Mercury Workshop about which Mr Wolf wrote so fully.

A new NYMT musical, *Pendragon*, steeped with awards at this year's Edinburgh Festival, comes to the new Festival Theatre in Edinburgh this February.

Yours sincerely,
JEREMY JAMES TAYLOR
(Artistic Director),
National Youth Music Theatre,
2 Bow Street, WC2.
December 28.

Key to sporting success

From Mr A. J. Colbert

Sir, The Sports Minister is going to Australia to discover the secret of success in cricket. Professor Radford (letter, December 22) tells us that abundant research has already identified the requirements.

Perhaps the most important trick is being missed. Our cricket *and* rugby teams should get themselves banned from all international competitions for a few decades. This has been an excellent preparation for success for the South Africans.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. COLBERT,
25 Leigh Road,
Walsall, West Midlands.
December 22.

Sports letters, page 35

Store of good will

From Mrs Judith A. White

Sir, Please can someone tell me how, and where, I can redeem all the "Brownie points" I have collected over the past 50 years? They must be worth quite a lot now.

Yours faithfully,
JUDITH WHITE,
24 Cromwell Road,
Ely, Cambridgeshire.

SOCIAL NEWS

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit South Africa in March.

Birthdays today

June Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair, 81; Sir Richard Beaumont, diplomat, 82; Lord Beaverbrook, 43; Sir Samuel Brittan, journalist, 61; Mr John Connell, former chairman, Distillers Company, 70; Mr Bernard Cribbins, actor, 66; Mr Ted Danson, actor, 47; Miss Ann Demeulemeester, fashion designer, 35; Baroness Denton of Wakefield, 59; General Sir Robert Ford, 71; Mr Andrew Foster, controller, Audit Commission for Local Authorities in England and Wales, 50; Professor L.C.B. Gower, former Vice-Chancellor, Southampton University, 81; Mr David Hall, former Chief Constable, Humberside, 64; Sir Simon Hornby, president, Royal Horticultural Society, 60; Mr Gilbert Hunt, former company chairman, 80; Mr Terry Lewis, MP, 58; Mr Martin Offiah, rugby league player, 28; Mrs Rosalind Preston, former president, National Council of Women of Great Britain, 59; Mr Peter Robinson, MP, 46; the Right Rev Mark Santer, Bishop of Birmingham, 58; Sir Kenneth Sharp, accountant, 68; Mr Harvey Smith, showjumper, 56; Mr Jon Voight, actor, 56; Sir Edward Williams, former commissioner-general, Expo 88, Brisbane, 78.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Charles Macintosh, pioneer of water-proofing, Glasgow, 1766; Andrew Johnson, 17th American President 1865-69, Raleigh, North California, 1808; William Ewart Gladstone, Prime Minister 1868-74, 1880-85, 1886 and 1892-94, Liverpool, 1809; Pablo Casals, cellist, Vendrelli, Spain, 1876.

DEATHS: Thomas à Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury 1162-70, murdered in Canterbury cathedral, 1170; Thomas Sydenham, physician, London, 1689; Brook Taylor, mathematician, London, 1731; Jacques-Louis David, painter, Brussels, 1825; Charles Lamb, essayist, Edmonton, Middlesex, 1834; Christina Rossetti, poet, London, 1894; Sir William Osler, physician, Oxford, 1919; Rainer Maria Rilke, poet, Valmont, Switzerland, 1926; Eden Phillpotts, novelist, Broad Clyst, near Exeter, 1960; Paul Whiteman, bandleader, Doylestown, Pennsylvania, 1967; Maurice Harold Macmillan, 1st Earl of Stockton, Prime Minister 1957-63, Sussex, 1986.

Radio Luxembourg began broadcasting, 1930.

The Irish Republic changed its name to Eire as the new constitution was implemented, 1937.

German planes dropped 10,000 bombs on London, 1940.

The first transistor hearing aid went on sale in America, 1951.

Church news

The Rev Canon John Cox, Vicar, Holy Trinity, Roehampton, diocese Southwark, has been appointed Archdeacon of Sudbury, diocese St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, succeeding the Ven Ricahrd Garrard, now Suffragan Bishop of Penrith, diocese Carlisle.

Appointments

The Rev Richard Adams, Vicar, Weymouth St Edmund: to be Priest-in-charge, The Winterbournes and Compton Valence (Salisbury).

The Rev Graham Archer, Minister-in-charge, Cavendish Park District, in the parish of St Mary, Walton: to be Priest-in-charge of the parish (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

The Rev William (Billy) Barnes, Assistant Curate, South Bank: to be Assistant Curate, Northallerton w. Kirby Sigston (York).

The Rev Paul Barnes, Curate, Weymouth Holy Trinity: to be Priest-in-charge, Studley St John (Salisbury).

The Rev Rex Bird, Rector, Monks Eleigh w. Chelsworth and Brent Eleigh w. Milden: to be *also* Priest-in-charge, Kettlebaston (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

The Rev Kevin Blogg, permission to officiate, diocese Norwich: to be Curate (NSM), Colkirk w. Oxwick and Pattesley, Whissonett, Horningtoft and Brisley, same diocese.

The Rev David Burrell, Priest-in-charge, Haughley w. Wetherden: to be *also* Priest-in-charge, Holy Trinity, Stowupland (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

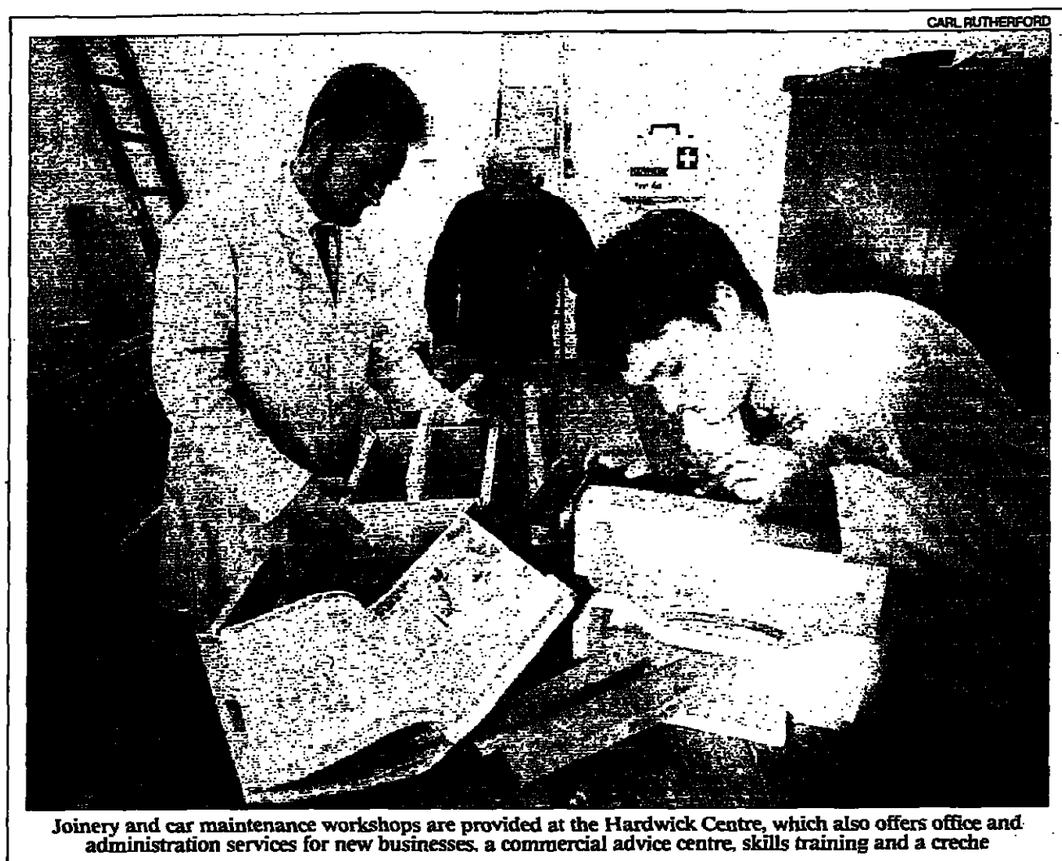
Institute of Mathematics

The following have been granted Chartered Mathematician status and Fellowship of the Institute of Mathematics and its applications:

* Mr D Ainley, * Dr P Ash, Mr J R Ashcroft, Mrs H M Barry, * Mr M J Bedford, * Dr M Cain, Dr K Chandler, * Dr D J Cooke, * Mr D Fairs, * Mr C S French, * Mr D J Greig, * Dr R Haggarty, * Mr W T Hewitt, Professor S G Hoggar, * Dr R D Holder, Mr S Hurley, * Mr S S Hussain, * Dr M Johnson, * Dr C D Jones, * Mr P R Lock, * Mr P J Mumford, Dr M P Neal, Dr G H Norton, * Dr A Oxley, * Dr E R Pinch, * Professor D Probert, Mr A Punter, Dr M J Reader-Harris, Mr D A Scott, Mr T D Scott, * Dr D R Simpson, * Mr N R Strachan, * Mr K R Sullivan, Dr S T Swift, Dr D J Thomas, Dr V Varadharajan, * Dr A Vella, * Mr E Vickers, * Mr G A Wickham, * Dr H T Williams, * Dr D T Wilton, * Dr J T Wise, Professor M T Wright

* Transferred from another grade of membership

CARL RUTHERFORD



Joinery and car maintenance workshops are provided at the Hardwick Centre, which also offers office and administration services for new businesses, a commercial advice centre, skills training and a creche

Centre brings hope to estate facing anarchy

BY PAUL WILKINSON

THE Hardwick Tomorrow Enterprise and Initiative Centre has revitalised a sprawling, run-down council estate on the verge of slipping into anarchy.

"It was an accident waiting to happen, a disaster about to explode," said Terry Owens, director of the project which has won the United Biscuit award for business development and training. The judges said it was one of the most imaginative and successful community-led projects in the United Kingdom.

The 3,000 houses on the Hardwick estate in Stockton on Tees were built in the 1950s for families working in Cleveland's heavy industries, such as steel, chemicals and fabrication. But today many of those employers have gone, leaving behind high unemployment and despair.

"Ten thousand people live on this estate," Mr Owens said, "and there was nothing here for them, no jobs, no community spirit, no focus, nothing. There was one playground for all those children, one child minder and no nursery provision for mothers who might want to get out to work."

In little under three years the centre has turned that round. It began with a meeting of everyone involved in the community, from teachers through councillors and police to residents. They identified a "wish list" of economic and social needs: retraining, advice and assistance.

"When we started people told me I was wasting my time," Mr Owens said. "No-one cared any more, but we have changed all that."

Tioxide Europe, a local chemicals firm, donated a redundant portable building for use as a training suite and £45,000 to run it for three years. Then money from local and national government grants was won to buy a former church hall to convert into a community centre.

They now provide joinery and car maintenance workshops, office and administration services for new start-up businesses, a commercial advice centre, skills training and a creche. There is also space for surgeries for outside agencies like the Employment Service, a law centre and local councillors.

The centre also provides a community focus for social events including concerts and fetes. There is even a free newspaper to keep people informed. "The place is absolutely alive, seven days a week," Mr Owens said. "It is a joint venture run by the community for the community. It is bringing jobs, activity, life into the area. People are involved and because of that vandalism, for instance, is virtually negligible. People will not hurt something in which they have a stake.

"We are now launching a 'cell network' with representatives from every street, telling us what their part of the community wants."

The Hardwick Tomorrow Enterprise and Initiative Centre has won the United Biscuits Award for Business Development and Training in the 1994 Community Enterprise Awards sponsored by The Times *and Touche Ross and organised by Business in the Community. The awards will be presented by the Prince of Wales in Manchester on February 8.*

University news

Keele

Academic Appointments

Pat A Austin, Temporary Lecturer in the Department of Biological Sciences from September 19

Margaret J Bailey, Senior Physiotherapy Teacher in the Department of Physiotherapy from November 1

George C Baugh, Lecturer and Victoria County History Editor in the Department of History from October 1

Jean A Bourne, Physiotherapy Teacher in the Department of Physiotherapy from November 1

Robert C Cooper, Professor of Social Theory and Organisation in the Department of Management from January 1, 1995, previously Reader in Organisation Theory, Lancaster University

Michael G Craig, Temporary Lecturer in the Department of Politics from September 1, previously Graduate Teaching Assistant

Peter R Croft, Professor of Epidemiology in the Department of Medicine, previously Clinical Epidemiologist, University of Manchester

William E Farrell, Lecturer, Non-Clinical in the Department of Biological Sciences, previously Senior Lecturer, University of Liverpool

Penelope M Glare, Lecturer in the Department of Classics from September 1, previously Junior Research Fellow, Jesus College, Cambridge

Isabelle Gaudy, Language Assistant in French (Lectrice) in the Department of Modern Languages from September 26

Lynn Hancock, Temporary Lecturer in the Department of Criminology from September 1, 1993, previously part-time Tutor, University of Liverpool

Thomas Hartman, Lecturer in the Department of Management from February 1, 1995, previously employed University of Gothenburg, Sweden

Darren Hoad, Temporary Lecturer in the Department of Politics from September 1

Barbara J Hollins, Physiotherapy Teacher in the Department of Physiotherapy from November 1

Jane R Holmes, Physiotherapy Teacher in the Department of Physiotherapy from November 1

John Horton, Reader in the Department of Politics from February 1, 1995, previously Lecturer, University of York

Jonathon A Hughes, Temporary Lecturer in the Department of Philosophy, from September 1, previously Computer Analyst/Programmer, Sainsbury plc

Kim Jones, Physiotherapy Teacher in the Department of Physiotherapy from September 1

Barbara Kelly, Lecturer in the Department of Music from February 1, 1995, previously employed University College, Scarborough

Ka-Po Lam, Lecturer in the Department of Physics (Electronic Engineering) from November 1, previously DAP System Support Officer, Kent University

Jennifer M Lowe, Clinical Education Co-ordinator in the Department of Physiotherapy from September 5

David J Maxwell, Lecturer in the Department of History from September 1, previously Research Fellow, Manchester University

Herve Nancey, Language Assistant in French (Lectrice) in the Department of Modern Languages from September 26

Martin Parker, Lecturer in the Department of Management

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. Ainapore and Miss L.A. Murray
The engagement is announced between Aasaf, elder son of Mr and Dr Munir Ainapore, of Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, and Léonie Alexandra, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs David Murray, of Wistow, Cambridgeshire.

Mr S.R. Eade and Dr F.M. Young
The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Mr and Mrs Robert Eade, of East Grinstead, West Sussex, and Fiona, daughter of Professor and Mrs Ian Young, of West Overton, Wiltshire.

Mr O.W. Hassall and Miss E.L. Alun-Jones
The engagement is announced between Oliver William, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Tom Hassall, of Wheatley, Oxfordshire, and Emma Louise, youngest daughter of Sir Derek and Lady Alun-Jones, of Effingham, Surrey.

Mr P.E. Slesinger and Miss N. Mercado
The engagement is announced between Patrick Edward, eldest son of Mr A.G.T. Slesinger, of Gledhow Gardens, London, and Mrs Jill Johnston, of Keepers Cottage, Cocking, near Midhurst, and Nerissa, daughter of Mr and Mrs V. Mercado, of the Philippines.

Mr S.M. Lammin and Miss E.L. Boag
The engagement is announced between Stuart Mark, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Colin Lammin, of Hornchurch, and Emma Louise, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Allan Boag, of Luton.

Mr V.E. Read and Miss L.J. Tidswell
The engagement is announced between Vernon Edward, elder son of Mr Stephen Read, of Scrafield, Lincolnshire, and Mrs Janet Read, of Silksey, Lincolnshire, and Lucy Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Tidswell, of Gosberton Risegate, Lincolnshire.

Dr T.M. White and Mrs M.S. Walters
The engagement is announced between Dr Trevor Moore White, of Leighwood House, Leigh Woods, Bristol, and Maureen Sylvia Walters, of Walton House, Freshford, Bath.

Marriage

Sir Hector Monro, MP, and Mrs D. Kaestner
The marriage took place quietly in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on December 23, between Sir Hector Monro, MP, of Williamwood, Lockerbie, and Mrs Doris Kaestner, of Woodbrook, Baltimore, Maryland.

Archaeology

Early villagers were not mere cereal farmers

BY NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

RECENT discoveries in eastern Turkey have challenged the long-accepted view that the earliest villagers were cereal farmers, growing primitive wheat and barley and herding sheep and goats. Instead, a range of economic options including hunting and collecting wild plants seems to have been available.

Since the late Dame Kathleen Kenyon's excavation at Jericho nearly 50 years ago, the association of early sedentism and farming has been an axiom of prehistory. Subsequent studies refined this view somewhat, but few scholars felt that non-agricultural villages had existed in the ancient Near East.

The site of Hallan Çemi on the Batman Cayi tributary of the Tigris has yielded contrary evidence, however. "The data call in question the causal role of cereal grass exploitation in fostering sedentism in south-west Asia," according to Dr Michael Rosenberg of the University of Delaware.

The site is a mound covering some two acres and with 4.3 metres (about 15ft) of archaeological deposits dating back as far as 11,000 years ago. The earliest occupation "was a small permanent village occupied year-round by a society seemingly dependent on a hunting-gathering economy," Dr Rosenberg reports in the journal *Mar Shipri*.

The scale of the architecture, including semi-subterranean sandstone buildings which may have been shrines or cult places, and the evidence for trade and prestige goods show an unexpected degree of social complexity, however. Hundreds of chlorite stone bowls were decorated with incised and relief motifs, and elaborate stone pestles were recovered.

The pestle handles were carved into animal forms, among which goats and a bear or pig have been recognised, and notched stone batons of unknown purpose were also made. Exotic goods included the black volcanic glass obsidian, imported from sources near Lake Van more than 100 km (60 miles) away.

Hallam Çemi is "the oldest demonstrable permanently settled village along the Taurus-Zagros arc" of eastern Turkey, northern Iraq and western Iran, Dr Rosenberg says. "What makes this particularly intriguing is that first, the plant and animal remains indicate that the economy was based on hunting and gathering wild species".

"More important, the plant remains indicate that cereals were apparently a much less significant component of the economy than at most other contemporary sites, calling into question long-standing assumptions about the origins of agriculture," he says.

Dr Rosenberg suggests that the correlation between cereal farming and village life seen in numerous southwest Asian sites is a coincidence: the same forces promoting sedentism also encouraged the use of cereals, but that where they were not utilised, people still settled down in villages and began the long, unconscious haul towards urbanism and civilisation.

Wisdom will not enter a shifty soul, nor make her home in a body that is mortgaged to sin. Wisdom of Solomon 1 : 4 (REB)

BIRTHS

BELL - On 24th December 1994, to Sara (née Claridge) and Tony, a daughter Grace Sara, a sister for Matthew, Rachel and Daniel.

BELL - On Christmas Eve 1994, to Penelope (née Woods) and Richard, a son, Robert John Gordon.

BOAG - On Christmas Day to Susan (née Fraser) and David a daughter Alexandra.

BOOTH-CLIBBORN On 23rd December 1994, at The Portland Hospital, to Leonie (née Freiin Von Oppenheim) and Charles, a daughter Edwina Loyse, Vera, Beville.

CLIFF - On November 19th to Hagaruée Arthur) and Eric, a son Hugo William Francis. Brother to Randal.

DEWHURST - To Charles and Jennifer (née Boyd), a son Oscar Roland Boyd, born on 23rd December.

DOBBS - On December 24th, at The Portland Hospital, to Romanie (née Spears) and Richard, a son Harry Richard, a brother for Freddie and Philip.

FOX - On December 28th, at The Portland Hospital, to Marcia (née Levene) and Alan, a daughter, Ilana Sarah, a sister for Liora.

GROOME - On December 20th, at The Portland Hospital, to Kristian and Todd, a beautiful daughter Amy.

HARESHAW THOMAS - On December 25th, to Charlie and Jacquie, a son Joe Christopher, a brother for Jack and Billy.

HARKER - On December 23rd to Amanda (née Cairns) and Tom, a daughter, Celia Isabel Fay, a sister for Charlie.

HILL - On Christmas Day at the Royal Free Hospital to Colette (née Drummond) and Ewen, a son, Fergus Alexander Drummond, a brother for Hamish.

LING - On December 21st in Hong Kong to Catriona (née Wight) and Simon, a daughter, Harriet.

LUCAS - On Monday 26th December 1994 at Pembury, Kent, to Lotte (née Birk) and James, a son, Jack Geoffry.

MONTGOMERY-MELLENEY - On December 27th at St Mary's, Paddington a lovely daughter Natasha to Victor and Clare.

NORTHRIDGE - On 22nd December, at The Portland Hospital, to Amanda and Martin, a daughter, Phoebe Grace, a cherished sister for Gus.

BIRTHS

O'BYRNE - On December 24th to Nathalie (Shaidanov) and Martin, a son, Daniel Martin Thomas, a brother for Alexandra and Natasha.

SCOTT - On 16th December 1994 at John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to Minakshi (née Gupta) and Robert, their first child David Kishan Howie.

SIMONS - On December 23rd, at The Portland Hospital, to Anne-Therese (née Eyston) and Edward, a son Jacob Luke Asher, a brother to Ben, Jade and Jordana.

STREET - To Caroline (née White) and Nicholas on Thursday 22nd December, a daughter, Amelia Chloe Laidley.

SWINTON - On December 23rd in Paris to Emma and Sandy, a daughter Mary Alexandra, who did not survive.

THOMPSON - On 21st December to Jackie (née Reynolds) and Anthony, a daughter, Emily Rachel, a sister for Joanna.

TIDY - On 22nd December 1994 to Deborah (née Mead) and Paul, a son, Giles William Morley.

ZUNZ - On December 23rd to Caroline Gray and Leslie Zunz, a son Leo, a brother for Sophie, Alexander and Lily.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

PIDGEON:SALT - On December 29th 1944, at Holy Trinity, Barton-upon-Trent, John to Ina. Now near Harrogate.

DEATHS

ALLEN - On Christmas Day, peacefully at home with her family, Virginia Margaret, beloved wife of Colin, darling mother of Katie, Stewart and Benedict, grandmother of Kirsty, Tessa and Harriet Virginia. Cremation private. Service of Thanksgiving at St Mary's Church, Setborne, Hampshire, on Tuesday 3rd January at 2.30 pm. No flowers please but donations, if desired, to The Basingstoke Bowel Cancer Research Project, North Hampshire Hospital, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG24 9NA.

BALFOUR - See FitzGeorge-Balfour

DEATHS

BULLEN - Peacefully on Christmas Day at Brendoncare Frostfield Wiltshire, in her 94th year, Ivy Irene Bullen, late of West Meon Marlborough. Widow of Arthur and an aunt and great aunt, much loved by all the Lefever Family. Funeral at St. George's Prestbute, Meon Marlborough at 2pm on Thursday 5th January followed by cremation. Donations in place of flowers to the Brendoncare Foundation, Frostfield Wilts, would be very much appreciated. Enquiries to Thomas Free & Sons. Tel 0672 512110.

CARLINE - Thomas Hallan B. Arch. Dip. C.D. December 24th 1994 peacefully at his home Pen-y-Glyn Hall Flint Mountain Clwyd aged 78 years. The beloved husband of Beryl Carline much loved father of Ian and Jane, dear father-in-law of Darryl and Gil, treasured grandfather of David, Philip, Robert and Emma. Funeral service at St. Thomas Church, Flint Mountain on Friday December 30th at 12.30 followed by committal at Chester Crematorium Blacon. Family flowers only, donations may be given in his memory to Flint Home Care Fund. All enquires to C.Tierney, Funeral Directors, Chapels of Rest, Chester Road, Flint. Tel 0352 732145.

CLARKE - On December 23rd 1994, peacefully, Diana, dearly loved wife of Geoffrey and mother of Timothy, Alexandra, Susan and Jennifer. Funeral service at St.Thomas à Becket, Brightling on Thursday January 5th 1995 at 2.00pm. Family flowers only, please, but donations, if desired, to St. Michael's Hospice, c/o C Waterhouse & Sons, Funeral Directors, High Street, Burwash, East Sussex.

CLEAVER - On December 26th, Gordon Neil Spencer D.F.C. ("Mouse") aged 84. Funeral at Aldershot Crematorium on Friday January 6th at noon. Enquiries to A&W Goddard Ltd Funeral Directors, Kent Road, Fleet. Telephone (0252) 616431.

CLEMENTS - On Christmas Day peacefully Kathleen Mary aged 92, dearly loved sister of Sibyl, Frank and the late Eileen Hemker and devoted aunt and great aunt.

DEATHS

CLINCH - Alan G.E. (Fred) Died 23rd December 1994, at his home in Leiston. His loving wife Sheila and children would like to thank all the friends who visited him during his illness. The Funeral Service will be held at St. Margaret's Church Leiston on Wednesday January 4th 1995 at 11 a.m. Family Flowers and donations made payable to the Somersham Ward Support Group, c/o Tony Brown The Funeral Parlour, Soomundham, Suffolk IP17 1DJ.

COMPTON - On Christmas Day 1994 in Spain, after a brave struggle against cancer, Sheila Helen Christine Compton, MBE younger daughter of the late Dr Arthur and Mrs Neil Compton, MBE formerly of Alexandria, Egypt. Dear sister of Maureen and much loved by all the family. She gave her body to the Anatomy Department of Cardiff University. Memorial service to be announced later. Donations, if wished, to The Royal British Legion, 48 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5JY or to The Dogs Home Battersea, 4 Battersea Park Road, London SW8 4AA.

COOMBE - On December 22nd peacefully in hospital following a stroke, June Swinford darling wife for 42 years of Denys, much loved and loving mother of Rosemary and Nicholas and "gangy" to Murray. Funeral service at Grayswood Parish Church on Friday December 30th at 11.30am, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to Stroke Association CHSA House, Whitecross Street, London EC1Y 8JJ.

CRAWFORD - On December 26, peacefully at home in Dinton, Wiltshire, Major General George Oswald Crawford CB, CBE, aged 92, formerly Director of Ordnance Services, late Gloucestershire Regiment, husband of Ella and previously of Sophie Cecilia, much loved father, grandfather, and great grandfather. Cremation private. Thanksgiving Service at Dinton, Wednesday 28th January, at 12 noon. No flowers please, donations to St. Mary's Church, Dinton.

DEATHS

de LIEVEN - On December 27th peacefully in London Her Serene Highness Princess Dina aged 91 years, beloved wife of Leonid. Funeral Russian Orthodox Cathedral, London SW7 Wednesday January 4th 1995 at 1pm followed by private cremation. No flowers, donations St. Theresa's Home c/o. Levesson & Sons Ltd Funeral Directors, 212 Evershott Street London NW1 1BD

DENTON - Margaret Louisa (née Egerton-Smith) peacefully in Leighton Hospital on December 26th much loved wife of Tim and loving mum of Simon and Tom. Also, much loved by mother Irene and brothers David and Guy and all members of the family. Funeral service at Whitegate Church on Friday 30th December at 2pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired for Breast Cancer Research and Treatment to be sent to George Bell, Funeral Directors, 49 Birches Lane, Lostock Green, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 7SN. Tel: 0606 42534.

EVANS - Edwin Arthur. Peacefully on Christmas night in his 90th year in the loving care of the staff of Court Lodge Nursing Home, Pennington, Hampshire. Twice widowed and beloved father of Diana Jane, wise Counsellor and good friend to many. Service and interment at St. Nicholas' Church, Brockenhurst, Hampshire on Friday, 30th December at 12.00 noon. Family flowers only. Donations to British Heart Foundation and British Diabetic Association, c/o Diamond and Son Funeral Directors, Lymington. SO41 9DN.

EXMOUTH - On December 26th, peacefully at Lympstone House Nursing Home, Maria Luisa Viscountess Exmouth, Marquess de Olias, widow of 9th Viscount Exmouth. Requiem Mass at 11am on January 3rd at St. James's Parish Church Christow, followed by private burial. Flowers to Mitchell Funeral Services King William Street Exeter.

FAIRBAIRN - Doris Edith, devoted wife of Ronald, died on 24th December 1994 at Mount Alvernia after a short illness. Funeral Service at St James' Church, Shere at 10:30 am on Friday 30th December followed by a private cremation. Family flowers only but donations, if desired for the Royal British Legion.

DEATHS

FISHER - Peacefully in her sleep on December 28th in London, Edith Mary Fisher L.V.O., B.E.M. Funeral service at St. Wilfred's Chapel, 29, Tite Street, London SW3 on Wednesday 4th January 1995 at 2.00pm followed by cremation at Putney Vale Crematorium at 3.15pm. Family flowers only, but donations may be made to St. Wilfrid's Convent c/o A. France & Son, 46 Lamb's Conduit Street London WC1N 3NH. Tel 071 405 4901.

FITZGEORGE-BALFOUR Victor. Peacefully at home on December 28th. Beloved husband of the late Mary, and adored father of Diana and Robin and grandfather of Sophie, George, Charlotte and Victor. Funeral Private; No flowers. Details of Memorial Service to be announced later. Donations to Action Research, Vincent House, North Parade, Horsham, RH12 2DA.

GARNHAM - On Christmas Day 1994, professor Percy Cyril Claude Garnham CMG, FRS, aged 93 suddenly. Cherished husband of Esther, beloved father of Diana, Isolde, Cicely, Claude, Jasper and Carolyn, dearly loved by his grandchildren and great grandchildren. Funeral service at Talley Church, Dyfed, Wales at 2pm on Thursday December 29th. Flowers to Talley Church. Funeral directors: H C Grinstead, 0753 591200.

GRAY - On December 27th 1994 peacefully in a Manchester Hospital, Kathleen Rosemary Gray aged 79 years. Beloved wife of the late Kenneth Roland Gray late of Bowdon Cheshire and a dear sister to Marjorie. The funeral service will take place on Thursday January 5th at St Mary's Parish Church, Bowdon nr Altrincham at 1.30pm to be followed by interment at Wilmslow cemetery. Family flowers only please, but donations in her memory and for the benefit of the Royal National Institute for the Blind may be sent to Kenneth Dewey & Sons Funeral Directors, 2 Grove Lane, Hale, Altrincham, WA15 8JE. Tel: 061 980 3578 or 061 905 9393.

HERRON - Peacefully on 28th December, George Stephen. Beloved husband of the late Felicity, greatly loved father of Lucie, Sally, Mary and Christopher and much loved grandfather. Funeral service at Putney Vale Crematorium on Wednesday 4th January at 3.30pm. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to the RAF Benevolent Fund.

DEATHS

HENDERSON - On 25th December, suddenly in Sao Paulo Brasil, Charles James, aged 45, beloved son of Ralph and the late Miriam (baby) Henderson.

HILL - Dr. Basil, Consultant Anaesthetist at Royal Berkshire Hospital for 35 years, on December 20th in Reading, aged 86 years. Dearly loved father of George and Ken, grandfather of Tobias, Amelia, Kate, Nick and Rosy. Funeral at Reading Crematorium, Henley Road, at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday January 3rd. Donations to Alzheimer's Disease Society rather than flowers, please

HOWESON - On December 23rd peacefully in hospital, Kenneth, aged 89. Cremation at Hastings on Tuesday January 10th at 2.30 p.m. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, payable to R.N.I.B. c/o J.Perigoe & Son, The Dukes, Beckley, Nr Rye (0797) 260316.

HUNT - On Christmas Eve in Petersfield Hospital after a long and spirited life, Dora Gwendoline Hunt, aged 98. Cherished mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. At peace.

JONES - Sarah Elizabeth (Betty Bryn) on December 23rd 1994, dearly loved wife of the late Bryn Thomas Jones and mother of Owen and the late Margaret. Funeral Putney Vale Crematorium 5th January 1996 at 12.45pm, Family flowers only, donations to Cancer Research and The British Heart Foundation c/o Henry Smiths Funeral Directors 180 Battersea Park Road SW11 4ND.

LEWIS - At home at Newton Reigny, on Christmas Eve, St. Hilary Wilfred Tamar Lewis, loved husband, father and grandfather. Private funeral with family flowers. Donations c/o Messrs Richardson, Funeral Directors, Victoria Road, Penrith CA11 9HR. By his wish there will be no Memorial Service.

LOWE - On 23rd December suddenly with no pain, Norman Frederick D.B.E. aged 80 years, much loved husband of Pat and father of David and Chris. He will always be remembered. Funeral service at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead on Tuesday 3rd January at 12.30 pm.

DEATHS

MACFIE - On 28th December 1994 Rosemary Valerie (née Campbell) aged 66 years at Hare Lodge Hailsham. Loving mother of Clare Hicks and grandmother of Andrew, Zoë, Tom and Nicholas.

MALMESBURY - On December 25th 1994, the Countess of Malmesbury (née Campbell Preston) OBE, DL, JP, peacefully at the Hampshire Clinic. Beloved wife of Fitz and mother of Peter, Ann, John and Michael Barings. Family services at St James' Bramley, Hampshire and at Archchalan Priory, Argyll, December 30th 1994. Memorial service to be announced later. Family flowers only, donations to Help the Aged.

MATTHEWS - On 28th December peacefully in hospital in Halesworth, after a stroke, Kenneth Albert. Cremation private. An occasion for friends and family to meet will be arranged in the New Year.

MILLER - On December 26th 1994, peacefully at home, Marjorie H. Miller M.B.E. sister of the late Nancy. Funeral Service at All Saints Church, Holbrook on Tuesday January 3rd 1995 at 12.30 pm. Donations if desired made payable to the St John Ambulance Brigade may be sent to Farthing, Singleton & Hastings, 650, Woodbridge Road, Ipswich, IP4 4PW.

MURRAY - On December 23rd 1994, suddenly at home, James Brendan (Tony) formerly of John Egan and Son, husband of Anne, beloved father of Rachel, Jonathan and Simon, dearly loved grandpa of Clara, Alexander, Daniel and Jessica. Requiem Mass at St. Joseph's Church, Dorking on Wednesday January 4th at 11 am followed by private cremation. No flowers by request but donations for the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund may be sent to Sherlock and Sons, Trellis House, Dorking.

NEWTON - David N.A. Ozon School Master. Suddenly, on Christmas Eve, aged 78. Dearly loved husband of Sylvia, father of Paul and the late Andrew. Funeral service St. Mary's Church, Dedham on Thursday January 5th 2.30pm. Enquires, flowers, or donations to RNLI, to Gwinnell & Sons, 24 High Street, Manningtree, Essex. Tel 0206 391506.

DEATHS

PARKER - Mary Ruth of Feathercombe on 24th December, aged 84, suddenly after a stroke. Very dearly loved sister and aunt. Funeral Saturday 7th January at 12.00 noon at St. Peter's Church, Hambledon, Surrey. Family flowers only, but if wished, donations to the International Fund for Animal Welfare.

PARKINSON - On 24th December at Whitemoor, Amberley, Glos, William aged 94 years, Father of Gerald. Funeral Service at Cheltenham Crematorium on Thursday 5th January at 3.00 pm. Family flowers only, donations in lieu may be sent for Haringey Athletic Club c/o Philip Ford & Son Funeral Directors Ltd, Dirleton House, Cainscross Road, Stroud, Glos.

PRITCHETT - On the 26th December 1994 peacefully in Chesham General Hospital, Annie (Nan) aged 92 years, A much loved mother of Michael and grandmother of Bruce and Jill. Funeral Wednesday 4th January 1996, 2pm at Bibury Church. Donations for the Arthritic Society and enquiries to Norman Trotman & Hughes Funeral Directors, Northleach, Glos. Tel (0451) 860288.

PUGH - Dr Griffith Pugh M.B. B.Ch. peacefully at home on 22nd December after a long illness. Funeral arrangements to be announced.

SARGOOD - Roger Hammond. On December 23rd suddenly at Sedhill on Ash Sussex. Funeral Eastbourne Crematorium Friday 6th January 12.15. Family flowers only, donations to RNLI. Enquiries Mummery Funeral Directors 0424 730418.

SIMPSON - On December 26th 1994, Robert John Bantyre, Writer to the Signet, much loved husband of Barbara and father of Michael and Elizabeth. Service at the Canongate Kirk, The Royal Mile Edinburgh at 11:30 am on Friday December 30th 1994. Cremation thereafter private. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to the Royal Scots Regimental Museum, The Castle, Edinburgh.

STEVEN - Heather Frances née Todd, widow of Ian late of the Foreign Office, passed away peacefully on Friday 23rd December 1994. Family flowers only, all enquiries to Green & Co Funeral Directors, Eynsham Oxford. Tel: 0865 880857

DEATHS

TODD - On December 22nd peacefully in hospital, Dr John Arthur Todd F.R.S., Ph.D., aged 86 years. Will be sadly missed by all who knew him. Service at Croydon Crematorium on Wednesday January 4th at 2 pm. Flowers may be sent to J.B. Shakespeare Ltd, 67 George Street, Croydon.

TOWLE - On 27th December 1994, Peter peacefully with his beloved wife Pat beside him. The Funeral takes place at Guildford Crematorium on Tuesday 3rd January at 2.30pm. Family flowers. Donations to Guildford Crossroads Bury fields House, Bury fields Guildford GU2 7AZ.

TUCKER - On December 24th 1994 at Weymouth and District Hospital, Dorothy Mary of Dorchester in her 96th year. Dear sister of Margaret Chambers and Hilda Holland. Funeral Service at St. George's Church, Fordington, Dorchester on Tuesday January 3rd at 2.30 pm followed by Cremation at Weymouth. Family flowers only. Enquiries to Crossby Funeral Service. 16, Princes St. Dorchester. Tel (0305) 262338.

WALTON - On 27th December at Greenlane House Brampton, Cumbria, Stanley aged 97 years, husband of the late Phyllis and of the late Agnes, father of Oliver, Nancy and David, a dear grandfather and great grandfather. Funeral service at Carlisle Crematorium on Tuesday 3rd January at 11am.

WELLER - Peter Kenneth, aged 74 years. On 22nd December, peacefully in Watford General Hospital, after a short illness. Much loved husband of Stephanie, father of Sara, Mandy and William, father-in-law of Stephen, Paul and Brigette, and grandpa to Sophie, Esther, Nicola, Christopher, Josephine and Samuel. He will be greatly missed by his many family and friends. Funeral service at 2pm Friday 30th December at St Paul's Langleybury, Hunton Bridge, Herts followed by cremation at West Herts Crematorium. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired to S.W. Herts Hospice Appeal, 174 High Street, Watford.

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OBITUARIES

FANNY CRADOCK

Fanny Cradock, television cook, died in an East Sussex nursing home on December 27 aged 85. She was born Phyllis Primrose-Pechey on February 26, 1909.

EQUIPPED with a dynamic professional drive, an irascible personality and Johnny, her docile yet supportive husband and kitchen partner, Fanny Cradock pioneered the business of cooking in front of a camera. Her culinary television programmes, none of which was scripted, began in 1953, when Britain was still emerging from lingering post-war austerity.

Often wearing a ball gown as she prepared a gourmet meal, she displayed an imperious personality that inspired confidence among those who had hitherto dared to cook no more than a boiled egg. She continued to dominate the medium for over twenty years.

Her shows became a showcase for cookery full of good advice, good food, and goodness knows what else.

The programmes were a tour de force. There she was, grating a nutmeg here, agitating some fluid ounces there and pouring out her comments all the while in that breathless, deep voice — a voice once described as "a circular saw going through a gin-soaked sheet".

"The British housewife's greatest handicap," she proclaimed huskily, "is the British husband — who just wants what mum used to make." Her own British husband, the ubiquitous Johnny, wearing a monocle and as often as not a dinner jacket, always hovered obediently, attentive to his wife's every requirement. "Frying pan, Johnny," she would command, and he would silently provide it.

Together, they demystified the "art" of cooking. The most complicated and foreign-sounding of dishes became possible, and the uneducated palate of a hungry British public tasted new delights.

Sunday afternoons on BBC1 were enlivened by her aptly named *Adventurous Cooking* series, while her *Colourful Cookery* series did the same for BBC2.

The television recipe was translated briefly to the theatre — the Arts Theatre Club — in the summer of 1958 as *Something Burning*, "a cooking comedy".

For three long acts, on a stage that had been turned into a kitchen, Fanny and Johnny produced one dish after another, reeling off the ingredients as they were tossed into the melting pot to the accompaniment of comments which were occasionally whimsical, often bawdy.

The tone of the production was that cooking could be terribly, terribly simple once the British got rid of their dreary ways and understood what the French were all about. There was the occasional gasp of admiration from the audience for Mrs Cradock's genius as a platter was produced.

Fanny Cradock was born Phyllis Primrose-Pechey, and as a child spent part of each winter in Nice. According to her own recollections, while her father (who was later declared bankrupt) was at the casino and her mother was with an admirer, Fanny used to take herself into the hotel kitchen, where the staff sat her on a shelf and she watched them cooking.

She spent her earliest years with her grandmother, whose name, Frances, she later adopted. As a child she wanted to be a professional violinist. "I was a bloody awful little girl. Father used to say to mother: 'Why not send those two children of yours to play on the railway.' "

In the event, she did neither. She recalled later that by the time she was 14 she was



engaged to three young men. At 16 she ran away and married one of them. But he joined the RAF, was killed four months later, and at 17 she was left holding their baby.

Meanwhile her grandmother had died and her parents separated. She arrived in London, penniless, and got a job in a church-run canteen in return for a pittance and her dinner. She graduated to selling vacuum cleaners from door to door. After she met Johnny, an old-Harrovian Army officer, on Hackney Marshes during a blackout in 1939 she began writing for newspapers, and in 1948 joined the *Daily Express*. Soon afterwards she began writing on travel and gastronomy for *The Daily Telegraph* in partnership with her husband under the nom-de-plume "Bon Viveur". Using the name Frances Dale, she also became the fashion editor of the *Sunday Graphic*.

She recalled that when she first auditioned for television the director had said to her: "You've won hands down, and I'm so glad to hear that you're having your nose done."

She regarded this as a tactful suggestion that her prominent Roman nose was too big, and went immediately to Archibald McIndoe, the cosmetic surgeon, who gave her a new and more delicately fashioned one.

In 1956, with characteristic assertiveness, Fanny Cradock took issue with Raymond Oliver, a French television chef who had dared to suggest that women were inferior to men in the practice of the culinary arts. She challenged him to a cooking duel at the Café Royal, which was diplomatically declared a draw.

The Cradocks went on to host public cookery demonstrations around the country. Their culinary influence was so extensive that they became the butt of caricature. In the cult 1960s radio comedy *Round the Horne* Betty Marsden would perform as Fanny Haddock, and in a Morecambe and Wise sketch Ernie Wise would put on a frock to play her. Indeed, so extensive was their influence that in 1974 Scottish fishermen blamed the Cradocks for the collapse of the scampi market after Fanny showed housewives how to make ersatz scampi using cheap monkfish instead of prawns.

Although she always overshadowed her softly spoken husband during their public culinary performances, this was not so in their private life. "He is the only person who can handle me," she said.

Fanny Cradock was an accomplished businesswoman with immense energy who in her prime continued to write novels as well as cookery books. Although she had a natural flair for public relations her hot temper often attracted publicity unconnected with her culinary expertise, and over the years she had sometimes spectacular rows with policemen, publishers and the Inland Revenue Commissioners, as well as with members of the public who dared to call her Fanny instead of Mrs Cradock.

The Cradocks moved home often, living in Blackheath, the Channel Island, and briefly in the West Country before settling in Little Benfleet near Clacton, Essex, where in 1987 they were the victims of an £80,000 robbery. Johnny Craddock died later that year. Fanny is survived by two sons.

GENERAL SIR VICTOR FitzGEORGE-BALFOUR

General Sir Victor FitzGeorge-Balfour, KCB, CBE, DSO, MC, United Kingdom Military Representative to Nato, 1971-73, died yesterday aged 81. He was born on September 15, 1913.

VICTOR BALFOUR was one of the principal military policy-makers during Britain's postwar withdrawal from Empire. A first class commander who won his MC in Palestine in 1939 and his DSO in 1950 commanding the 2nd Battalion Coldstream Guards in Malaya, he made his greatest contribution to national military affairs in four key staff appointments which he held in the 1960s, and which associated him closely with the execution of the final withdrawal from East of Suez.

An urbane soldier with a first-class, highly-objective brain, abundant commonsense and an attractive sense of humour, he was as much at home in the international corridors of power as he was with his guardsmen in the jungles of Malaya.

Robert George Victor FitzGeorge-Balfour was a direct descendant of Queen Victoria's cousin, Field Marshal the Duke of Cambridge, through his mother Iris FitzGeorge. The son of Robert S. Balfour, he was educated at Eton and King's College, Cambridge, before being commissioned into the Coldstream Guards in 1934. He was soon on active service in Palestine during the Arab Revolt of the late 1930s, and won his MC in action against armed Arab gangs in 1939.

When the Italians invaded Egypt in 1940 he was commanding the fortress anti-tank company at Mersa Matruh. This was the last he was to see of regimental soldiering for the rest of the war. He went to the Middle East Staff College at Haifa early in 1941, and thereafter served on operational staffs until 1948.

He was Brigade Major of 2nd Guards Brigade for three months before becoming GSO2 in General Sir Oliver Leese's HQ 30th Corps towards the end of the Battle of El Alamein. He stayed with it throughout the advance to Tunis and through the Sicilian campaign, gaining unrivalled experience as an operational staff officer at corps level.

In the autumn of 1943 he returned to England with HQ 30th Corps to prepare for Normandy as its GSO1, but soon after the actual invasion he was transferred to General Sir Richard O'Connor's HQ 8th Corps to take over as its Brigadier General Staff. He remained its principal operations officer for the rest of the North West European campaign. A senior visitor to 8th Corps remarked on the deference with which this 31-year-old brigadier was held by divisional and brigade commanders. Never ruffled, working swiftly and accurately, and drafting instructions in his crystal clear English, he ran a happy and efficient headquarters throughout some of the severest fighting of the campaign. He was appointed CBE in 1945.

While he was BGS 8th Corps, he had one particularly harrowing experience. As the leading troops were approaching the Belsen concentration camp in April 1945, two German emissaries arrived under flag of truce to negotiate its orderly hand-over and to warn that typhus was raging in it. As their proposals required modification, FitzGeorge-Balfour returned with them to the opposing German Army Group headquarters to negotiate the necessary changes and to find out the extent of the problem 8th Corps was about to inherit. He was taken blindfold through the German lines and when his blindfold was removed became the first British officer to see the horrors of Belsen.



The end of the war brought anti-climax and loss of rank. He spent over a year as a colonel with the British Military Mission to the French Army, and a further 18 months as a lieutenant-colonel in the staff duties directorate of the War Office. His regiment then decreed that he had been away from them too long for him to command a Coldstream battalion without first reverting to major and carrying out the duties of second-in-command. He went out to Malaya with the 2nd Battalion in April 1948 and nine months later was commanding it in the jungles around the Cameron Highlands.

In Malaya he was an outstanding success and won the DSO. He established a happy rapport with his guardsmen despite his long absence from regimental duty, and carried out some of the most effective of the jungle sweeps, which were in tactical vogue at that time. Nevertheless, he began to doubt whether Cold War soldiering with its long periods of family separation and turbulence was for him. He resigned his commission at the end of his command. But the Army was so stretched with the Korean War starting, the British Army of the Rhine being strengthened and the Malayan emergency continuing, that all voluntary retirement was stopped and he had to soldier on.

Two years back in the War Office and a spell as assistant instructor at the Imperial Defence College brought him back into the Army's policy-making stream as Military Assistant to the Head of the British Joint Staff Mission in Washington in 1952, and two years later as British Liaison Officer to the US Joint Chiefs of Staff. After a year's sabbatical at the Imperial Defence College in 1956, he was, at long last, a brigadier again: Chief of Staff to the Governor of Cyprus, Field Marshal Sir John Harding and later Sir Hugh Foot, during the latter phases of the abortive EOKA campaign for the island's union with Greece.

His command of 1st Guards Brigade in BAOR from 1958 to 1960 was flattering but almost irrelevant to the subsequent apogee of his career. In five successive appointments — Deputy Director of Staff Duties, 1960-62; Chief of Staff Southern Command, 1962-64; Director of Military Operations, 1964-67; Senior Army Instructor at the Imperial Defence College, 1967; and Vice-Chief of General Staff, 1968-71 — he was responsible for implementing some of of the main policy decisions in the ten-year final disengagement from East of Suez, and the re-orientation of the Army towards a more European role. It was, therefore, appropriate that his last appointment should be United Kingdom National Military Representative on the Nato Council.

After he retired in 1973, he turned to working for national charities and became chairman of the National Fund for Research into Crippling Diseases, to which he devoted the rest of his life. He was appointed Deputy Lieutenant of West Sussex in 1977.

He married Mary (Diana), elder daughter of Rear Admiral Arthur Christian, in 1943. She died earlier this year and he is survived by a son and a daughter.

STUART EVANS

Stuart Evans, novelist, poet and radio drama producer, died of liver failure on December 12 aged 60. He was born on October 20, 1934.

A NOVELIST of often exacting complexity, Stuart Evans had a high reputation among those who took the trouble to apply themselves to his *oeuvre*. His most impressive achievement was the five-volume *Windmill Hill* sequence (1978-87) which deals with the themes of Britain's contemporary social, moral and spiritual decline, intellectual shoddiness and political disillusion.

Haunted as it is by the past, notably that of the first-century Roman empire, the pentalogy often strongly recalls David Jones, in its sense of a modern world living on the scarp slope of time. Like Jones, Stuart Evans was a poet, too, and it was an eclectic, poetic imagination which informed his best work in prose.

Evans also made a considerable contribution to the education of the young in his work as a senior producer for schools broadcasting on BBC radio. To this he brought the same care and dedication as he lavished on his own writing.

Edwin Stuart Gomer Evans was born in 1934 in Ystalyfera in western Glamorgan. The son of a local schoolmaster, he had a bookish childhood.

He won an an Exhibition to Jesus College, Oxford, in 1952 and distinguished himself there, winning the Newdigate prize for Poetry in 1955 with his poem entitled "Elegy for the Death of a Clown". He also wrote an undergraduate musical, *The Crime of Your Life*, which was performed at the Oxford Playhouse in 1955.



He wrote many lyrics for revues and for a while he thought he might make a living writing musicals. He served his National Service in the Royal Navy, taking a commission in the instructor branch. While there he met a WRNS officer, Kay Treacy, and they were married in 1960.

After demobilisation Evans became a lecturer at Brunel College of Technology for five years before joining the BBC as a schools producer. This gave him the financial platform from which, in the following years, he produced a great variety of written work: his brilliant, scholarly novels; racy paperback detective stories and book reviews notable for their fairness.

In the meantime at the BBC he communicated his love of literature to millions of school children through his job as a producer. *Books, Plays and Poems*, his series for radio was an exciting mixture. Respected as a poet and writer himself, he was able to get the best of contemporary writers to contribute. He produced one of Tom Stoppard's earliest plays and commissioned pieces from Peter Porter, Alan Brownjohn and Seamus Heaney, all of whom became friends.

As a drama producer he cast imaginatively; Brian Rix was delighted to be asked to play Falstaff. Eight years after he had produced *Julius Caesar* the BBC asked him to make a new one. Evans refused on the grounds that he had made the definitive version. The powers that be insisted; he gave in but cast it using as many as possible of the original actors, thus making his point nicely.

Evans's first novel, *Meritocrats* (1974), set in the family of a senior civil servant, was hailed for its wit and brilliance. It was followed by *The Gardens of the Casino* (1976) and *The Caves of Alienation* (1977), a complex reconstruction of the life of a fictional writer who has recently met a grisly end on a Welsh island.

The first volume in the *Windmill Hill* sequence was *Centres of Ritual* (1978), which took as its theme the crisis of the liberal conscience in the political ethos of Britain in the 1970s. It was succeeded by *Occupational Debris* (1979), *Temporary Hearths* (1982), *Houses on the Site* (1984) and *Seasonal Tribal Feasts* (1987). Evans was also writing poetry and in 1972 published a short sequence "Imaginary Gardens with Real Toads". This was followed in 1977 by his first collection of poems *The Function of the Fool*.

Evans loved Europe and for a while had a second home in the old part of Nice. Kay and he wrote a guide book to Greece, and he wrote a series of poems about travelling abroad and through life with her. They also wrote paperback potboilers together under the name Hugh Tracy, a modification of Kay's maiden name.

She died last year and he is survived by his stepdaughter.

SIR SIDNEY EBURNE

Sir Sidney Eburne, MC, former chairman of the Crown Agents, died on December 19 aged 76. He was born on November 26, 1918.

SIDNEY EBURNE was a leading member of the team drafted into the Crown Agents in the mid-1970s to help clear up a £224 million financial mess. He was already an experienced merchant banker with a successful career at Morgan Grenfell behind him when he was recruited as director of finance in 1975 to work under Sir John Cuckney — who had been brought in as chairman in the previous October.

Eburne had won the Military Cross on D-Day and was a stolid, dependable specialist on investments with a reputation for not flinching under fire. He was in banking terms, however, a late starter — having joined a government training scheme after the war.

He had been born Sidney Alfred William Eburne in Highgate, north London, where his father worked in a stockbroking firm. Young Sidney went to Downhills School and soon after leaving joined the Territorial Army.

Enlisted with the colours on the outbreak of the Second World War, he was among those evacuated at Dunkirk. He was a captain by the time he recrossed the Channel in June 1944 and was subsequently decorated for his gallantry.

Eburne, who fought his way into Germany as the Allies advanced, was demobilised in 1946 and joined Morgan Grenfell. By 1968 he was on the board and in 1975 moved over to the Crown Agents.

The Crown Agents, who come under the Overseas Development Administration providing financial, technical and procurement services for developing countries, had incurred heavy losses, partly as a result of the crisis in secondary banking at that time and partly through a series of unwise speculations. Eburne quickly became Cuckney's right-hand man in pushing through a reorganisation programme. He was appointed managing director in November 1976, eventually succeeding Cuckney as chairman and senior crown agent in 1978.

Eburne was pleasantly surprised by the knighthood which followed his retirement in 1983. He thought he had quarrelled with too many bureaucrats, especially those in the Treasury, for his own good. In the same year that he left the Crown Agents he became a director of the Peachey Property Corporation, remaining on the board for five years. In 1984 he was also made a governor of the Peabody Trust.

Eburne, who died of a brain tumour, invested in his own farm in East Sussex, but let out most of the land to local sheep farmers, remaining himself a dilettant-ish agriculturalist. He listed his own recreations as golf and travel.

He is survived by his wife Freda, whom he married in 1942 after knowing her since school, and by a son and daughter.

DEATHS

WESTALL – Peacefully on Christmas Day 1994, Harry Martin of Ashburton, Devon, husband of Ruth, father of Oliver and Melloney, father-in-law of Karen and Roger, grandfather of Rebecca and Rosina. U.R.C. Minister for more than forty years. The funeral will take place on Today 3rd January 1995 at 2.45 p.m. in St. Andrew's Church, Ashburton, Devon. Family flowers only but donations in lieu if desired to Rowcroft Hospice, Torquay at the service or through Webber and Christophers, Cistley Road, Ashburton, Devon

WRIGHT – On December 23rd 1994, Marjorie Alice the beloved wife of Clifford Rex, died peacefully in Epsom General Hospital. The Funeral will take place at the Crematorium, Randalls Park, Leatherhead on Tuesday 3rd January 1995 at 3.30pm. No flowers please, donations are welcome to Epsom General Hospital c/o. W.A. Truslove & Son Ltd Funeral Directors 18 Church Road Epsom.

WRIGHT - On 24th December peacefully at Kent and Canterbury Hospital, John Keith. Dearly loved and greatly missed by his wife Thérèse, his family and his many friends in London and in Bexhill-on-Rye in England and in France and in the world at large. Enquiries to Funeral Director J. Ollnutt Smith. Tel 0304 812500. A Memorial Service will be held in London at a later date.

YARDLEY – F.W. (Frank) on Christmas day, aged 88 years. Dear husband, father and grandfather. Funeral private by his special request.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

ELPHINSTONE – A Memorial Service for James, Lord Elphinstone, will be held in St Mary's Church, Wimbledon on Tuesday January 3rd at 2 pm.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

GALE – A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of David John Gale, will be held at St George's Church, Hanover Square, London W1, on Tuesday 17th January 1995 at 11.30am.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

PAYNE – (Ken) 1924-1988. Loved always, remembered always. Toni, Jem, Fi and Olivia.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PIP and Eric got engaged in Jakelmar. Vinpear Love to all from Dodds & Billington.

THIS year is the 500th anniversary of the birth of William Tyndale. He gave his brief life to translating the bible into the English language. This he did in his clear and lively style so that it could be read and understood by all. You can benefit from his work with the aid of a Daily Bible Reading Plan. With this plan the whole of the Bible can be read (Old Testament once and New Testament twice) in a year. Why not begin in 1995. Send for free copy from A.Thomas, 79 Oakington Ave., Little Chalfont, Bucks, HP6 6RT

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COMBAT STRESS

Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society Broadway House, The Broadway, Wimbledon SW19 1RL Tel: 081-543 6333

ANNOUNCEMENTS

G.R.

Have a wonderful new year.
Wish I could be with you.
Love PIP.

BIRTHDAYS

PAT Six and a half years worth living for. Forty, and I love you even more. With passion and love deep in my heart. I just can't wait for the future to start. Happy Birthday love Nov.

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WANTED

PETER ROBINSON. Please would John Mercer Erics contact Rec No 2711. it may be to her advantage

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TICKETS FOR SALE
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COURT & SOCIAL PAGE
Over the New Year period the following deadlines will apply:-
Notices to appear on Thursday, December 29 should be received in writing by noon on Wednesday, December 28 Notices to appear on Friday, December 30 should be received in writing by 5pm on Wednesday, December 28
Notices to appear on Saturday, December 31; Monday, January 2; Tuesday, January 3 should be received in writing by 12 noon on Thursday, December 29
All notices are accepted subject to confirmation
Tel: 071 782 7347 Fax: 071 481 9313

ON THIS DAY

December 29 1879

Ninety people lost their lives in this disaster. The bridge, opened in 1878, was designed by Sir Thomas Bouch. The second Tay Bridge — the longest railway bridge in Britain — was opened in 1887.

DREADFUL ACCIDENT ON THE TAY BRIDGE.

LOSS OF A PASSENGER TRAIN.

DUNDEE, SUNDAY, MIDNIGHT.

To-night a heavy gale swept over Dundee, and a portion of the Tay-bridge was blown down while the train from Edinburgh due at 7.15 was passing. It is believed that the train is in the water, but the gale is still so strong that a steamboat has not yet been able to reach the bridge. The train was duly signalled from the Fife side as having entered on the bridge for Dundee at 7.14. It was seen running along the rails, and then suddenly there was observed a flash of fire. The opinion was that the train left the rails and went over the bridge. Those who saw the incident repaired immediately to the Tay-bridge Station at Dundee and informed the station-master of what they had seen. He immediately put himself in communication with the man in charge of the signal-box at the north end of the bridge. The telegraph wires are stretched across the bridge, but when the instrument was tried it was soon seen that the wires were broken.

Mr. Smith, the station-master, and Mr. Roberts, locomotive superintendent, determined, notwithstanding the fierce gale, to walk across the bridge as far as possible from the north side, with the view of ascertaining the extent of the disaster. They were able to get out a considerable distance, and the first thing that caught their eye was the water spurting from a pipe which was laid across the bridge for the supply of Newport, a village on the south side, from the Dundee reservoirs. Going out a little further, they could distinctly see by the aid of the strong moonlight that there was a large gap in the bridge caused by the fall, so far as they could discern, of two or three of the largest spars. They thought, however, that they observed a red light on the south part of the bridge, and were of opinion that the train had been brought to a standstill on the driver noticing the accident. This conjecture has, unfortunately, proved incorrect. At Broughtyferry, four miles from the bridge, several mail bags have come ashore, and there is now no doubt that the train is in the river. No precise information as to the number of passengers in the train can be obtained, but it is variously estimated at from 150 to 200.

The Provost and a number of leading citizens of Dundee started at half-past 10 o'clock in a steam-boat for the bridge, the gale having moderated; but they have not yet returned . . .

EDINBURGH, MONDAY, 4 A.M.

The portion of the bridge that has given way consisted of several of the large super-incumbent girders at the central and navigable portion of the river, which is on an average from 40ft. to 45ft. deep. The train would fall a distance of 88ft. before reaching the water. Some time elapsed before the nature of the accident was ascertained. Roberts, an official, walked along the bridge a certain distance, and then crawled till he came to the great chasm, when he saw that the 13 girders had gone, and that nothing was left but the iron supporting piers . . .

THE TIMES TODAY THURSDAY DECEMBER 29 1994

NEWS

British Gas cuts safety check bill

■ British Gas was plunged into fresh controversy after it emerged that it is to cut the amount it spends annually on checking for gas leaks from £9 million to £1 million.

The move provoked a storm of protest from the Gas Consumers Council, trade unions and Labour, whose spokesman Nigel Griffiths claimed the company was putting profits before public safety.....**Page 1**

Floods sweep across the West

■ Flood alerts went out as rivers in rain-lashed areas of England and Wales rose to dangerous levels. More flooding was predicted as torrential rain and strong winds were due. In the West Midlands, the National River Authority issued more than 25 flood warnings. Amber alerts were issued for the Severn at Shrewsbury and Welshpool.....**Page 1**

Grozny onslaught

Russian forces made a sustained day-long attack against Grozny, pounding Chechen positions on several front lines and advancing to within five miles of the centre.....**Pages 1, 12**

Franny Cradock dies

Cookery-as-entertainment has lost one of its earliest and greatest stars with the death in an East Sussex nursing home of Fanny Cradock, aged 85.....**Page 1**

University demand

Fears that student poverty and poor job prospects had ended the ten-year boom in demand for higher education have been confounded by another rise in university applications.....**Page 2**

Murder hunt

A doctor found murdered at her home on Boxing Day was once the victim of an obsessive man who tried to defraud her of £10,000.....**Page 3**

London in focus

London is attempting to become one of the world's leading film centres with the founding of a London Film Commission to entice work in the city.....**Page 4**

Old remedy

An American study shows that older women who work out twice a week with dumbbells and training machines reduce the risk of the bone-thinning condition osteoporosis.....**Page 5**

Anti-cancer hope

British scientists have discovered an anti-cancer chemical in a marine fungus on the coast of Malaysia.....**Page 6**

Angry exile

In his final report on Britons in Spain, Bill Frost meets the man who is proud to be a misanthrope: "They call me the neighbour from hell and they are dead bloody right".....**Page 8**

Land mine danger

More than 800 people are killed and thousands more injured each month by landmines, according to a report by the International Red Cross. Most are civilians killed or mutilated as they work their fields.....**Page 9**

French fears

France's Algerian community has been left isolated, depressed and fearful after last Saturday's hijacking of a French Airbus and the murder on Tuesday of four priests.....**Page 10**

Go East young man

Young British business pioneers seeking adventure and a career boost are moving to the capitals of Eastern Europe.....**Page 11**

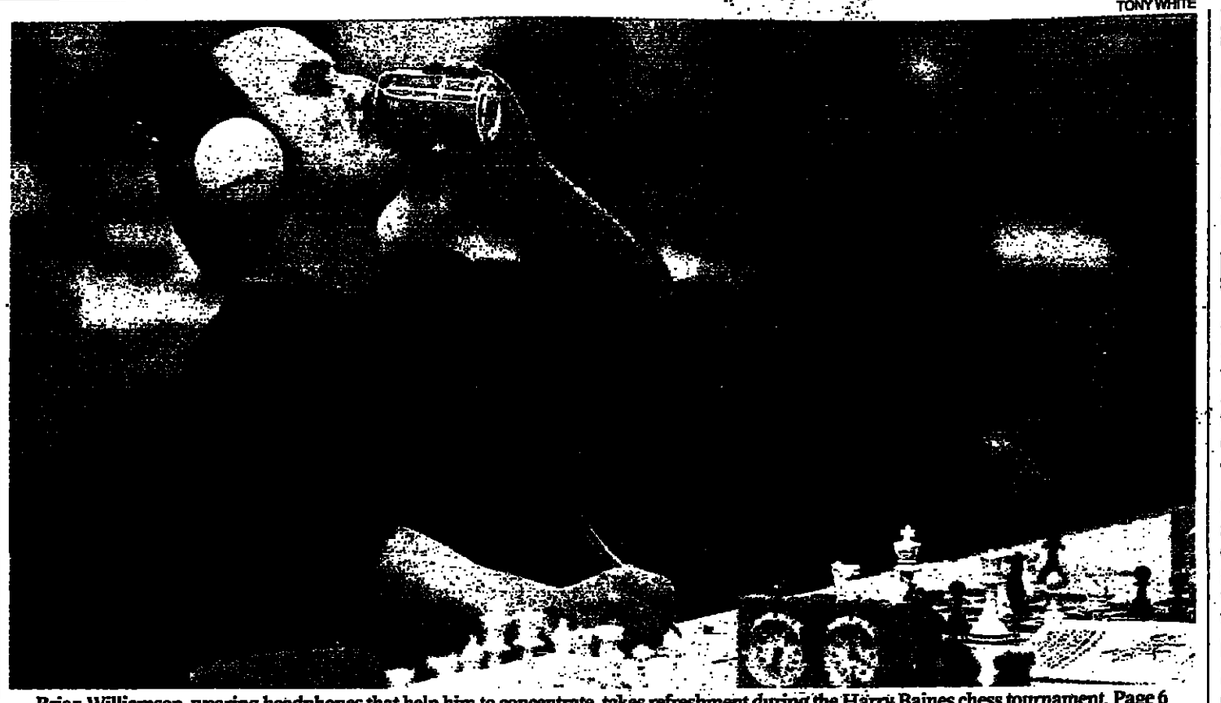
Rwanda's future

Pessimistic aid workers say that Rwanda can never recover and again be a viable country. Optimists say it can be rescued, over perhaps a decade. But the killings continue.....**Page 13**

World pay triumph for Whitehall

■ Senior British Civil Servants are paid more than almost all their counterparts around the world, according to figures submitted to ministers. Only top officials in Japan beat Whitehall's high-flying mandarins in the international pay league, figures compiled by the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, show.....**Page 1**

TONY WHITE



Brian Williamson, wearing headphones that help him to concentrate, takes refreshment during the Harry Baines chess tournament. Page 6

BUSINESS

Pentos: The company which owns Dillon's bookshops, called administrative receivers into its Athena subsidiary to end the cash drain from 131 poster shops.....**Page 21**

Mercury: One-2-One may drop free-call campaigns after large numbers of customers complained they could not get through on Christmas Day.....**Page 21**

Economy: Treasury assurance of subdued inflationary pressure reinforced the City view that Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, see no immediate need for higher interest rates.....**Page 21**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 rose 12.4 to 3095.8. Sterling fell to 79.5 after falling from $1.5465 to $1.5440 and DM2.4404 to DM2.4298...**Page 24**

SPORT

Cricket: England went into the final day of the second Test match in Melbourne facing defeat by Australia. Set 388 to win they lost four wickets for 79.....**Page 40**

Football: Ipswich Town, bottom club in the FA Carling Premiership, appointed George Burley manager in succession to John Lyall.....**Page 40**

Rugby union: A squad of 33 England players leave for training in the warmth of Lanzarote well aware of the challenges to be faced in the next six months.....**Page 35**

Yachting: Rescue services mounted a search for Isabelle Autissier, a competitor in the BOC Challenge round-the-world race, after emergency signals were picked up from her boat.....**Page 40**

ARTS

Mind games: Louis Malle's latest film, *Vanya on 42nd Street*, is a real treat for cinemagoers tired of Macaulay Culkin and Santa. Attenborough and that Sylvester Stallone blowing people up for Christmas.....**Page 30**

Radio review: Christmas radio, especially from the BBC, has this year been a comfort and a joy. All the more so when set against the film festival that Christmas television has become.....**Page 30**

The day I met: David Robinson will never forget the day he met Beatrice Lillie. In the Twenties and Thirties she was billed as "the funniest woman in the world" and, as he discovered in the Sixties, she could still lay claim to the title even in her dotage.....**Page 31**

FEATURES

TV ingredients: "Fanny knew about cooking and Johnny knew about booze." John Diamond on why we watched the Cradocks and other cooks.....**Page 14**

Immediate action: Time is crucial for treatment if meningitis is suspected in a child, says Dr Thomas Stuttaford.....**Page 15**

Giving up: As half a million people in the UK vow to stop smoking for the New Year, Dr Trisha Greenhalgh looks at the most successful methods.....**Page 15**

TRAVEL

Greater scope: The twin-globe Zeiss projector at the London Planetarium is to be replaced by new technology.....**Page 29**

Book now: Be quick to get the best early-booking holiday bargains, says Harvey Elliott.....**Page 29**

Blooming success: The pleasures of gardening, but without the pain, are providing holidays with growing appeal.....**Page 29**

BOOKS

Fiction potpourri: Ian McIntyre on the collected works of the gentle G.K. Chesterton.....**Page 32**

Gifted amateurs: Two extraordinary works on Scotland, reviewed by Magnus Linklater.....**Page 32**

Fantastical worlds: What can fairy tales mean to adults who left dragons and witches years ago? A.S. Byatt's "adult" stories.....**Page 33**



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **SURVIVAL**
Paul Barney, survivor of the Estonia ferry disaster, tells his story

■ **SPORT '95**
Four-page colour guide to the major sporting fixtures of 1995

TV LISTINGS

Preview: Photographs of 1994, from Elizabeth Hurley to slaughter in Rwanda, in *Decisive Moments* (BBC2, 8pm). **Review:** Matthew Bond finds Jonathan Ross's encounter with Hugh Hefner less than confrontational.....**Page 39**

OPINION

Algérie Française

It is not impossible to sympathise with M Balladur; but his priorities, and those of M Pasqua, do mean that little light is likely to be shone on Algeria from Paris.....**Page 17**

The real miracle drug

Luck, instinct, and the prepared mind are needed to make sense of confusion; and sometimes even the greatest discoveries lie around waiting for somebody with the wit to pick them up.....**Page 17**

London fields of vision

London should be the cinematic capital of the next century.**Page 17**

COLUMNS

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

1995: Ammus mirabilis. It is the economic miracle in Britain which has made London the focal point of world comment.....**Page 16**

JOHN GRIGG

The honours system does not discover exceptional merit and bring it to the public notice, but adds lustre to those who already have plenty of acclaim.....**Page 16**

OBITUARIES

Fanny Cradock, TV cook; **General Sir Victor FitzGeorge-Balfour**, Military Representative to Nato; **Stuart Evans**, novelist.....**Page 19**

LETTERS

Controversy over the dating of Matthew's Gospel.....**Page 17**

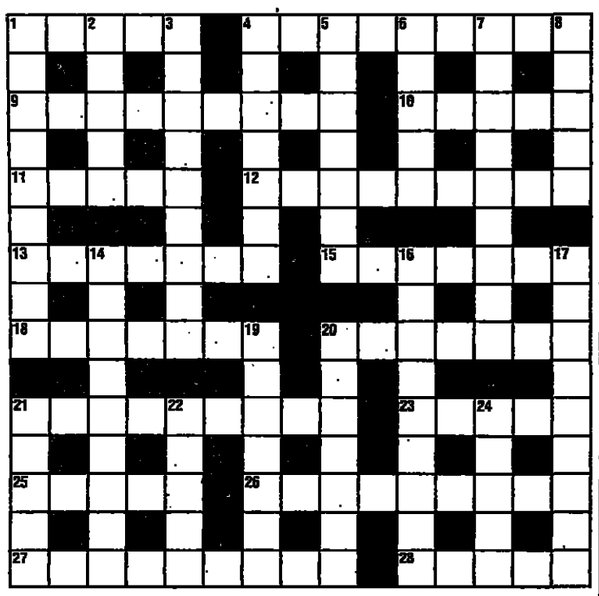
THE PAPERS

President Yeltsin was justified in using force against Chechenia but as a political exercise and military operation the attack has been inept. That is now a problem for him and for Washington

— The New York Times

China has moved with stunning speed to make itself a major force in the world's economy. But it has never accepted the idea that the rules applying to other countries should also apply to itself. That's the between China and the United States *— Washington Post*

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,738



ACROSS

1 Bone from bird held by father (5)
4 Utter space of a private cabin! (9)
9 One who appears behind? (9)
10 Impish piece of self-indulgence (5)
11 Round of applause with reservation (5)
12 Does one tack on a strand? (4-5)
13 Go back to school and take shower after soak (7)
15 Guy blends fruit for pickling (7)
18 See and post letters for Elizabeth Barrett Browning, say (7)
20 Call to meet people? (5-2)
21 In high spirits, stand up before a band (4-1-4)
23 First signs of it looking irregular? Any cramp in the lower body? (5)
25 State in which I had retired with nothing (5)
26 Make a hash of Delhi man's ingredients (9)
27 American tree with flatter top (6-3)
28 A deficiency? Oh, dear! (5)

DOWN

1 Pictures covering journey, to be projected separately (4-5)
2 Sort of square repast outside for copper, say (5)
3 Tear off below right-hand page in clergyman's office (9)
4 Two-point mains adaptor needed for Japanese guitar (7)
5 An associate member of RADA, for example (7)
6 Hand light for each one (5)
7 Look up works relating to nasal function (9)
8 A certain person in Montana was a painter (5)
14 Ditch insect biting (9)
16 Does she await the first issue of *Luna*, April edition? (9)
17 Dermatologist's test made without warning (4,5)
19 Impresario calling for silence putting on foreign woman. (7)
20 Sort prepared to be a compositor (4-3)
21 Go up to Conservative member (5)
22 Got up like an English circumnavigator (5)
24 Popular aid programme for the republic (5)

Times Two Crossword, page 40

Solution to Puzzle No 19,737

S	I	D	E	C	A	R		S	U	P	P	O	R	T
A		O		E		A		R		R				
L	O	G	O	S		M	O	D	E	R	N	I	S	E
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N		U		C		B		A		U		S		E
D	E	S	C	E	N	T		N	O	N	S	T	O	P

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereffds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

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For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Angl ia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Tuesday: Highest day temp: Heathrow Airport 14C (57F); lowest day max: Loch Glascarnoch, Highland, -1C (30F); highest rainfall: Nottingham 1.57in; highest sunshine: Aberdeen 2.9hr

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will have a showery day. The showers will be heavy and blustery, more frequent in western areas and along the Channel coast, with a risk of hail and thunder. Eastern parts will see fewer showers and the best of the sunshine.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will also have a showery day. The showers will be heavy with hail and a risk of thunder, and over higher ground will fall as sleet or snow. Sheltered eastern parts of both Scotland and Northern Ireland will have the best of the sunny spells between showers.

☐ **London, E Anglia, Midlands, E, Central N, NE England:** Sunny spells with scattered showers. Wind fresh to strong southwesterly. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **SE, Central S, SW, NW England, Channel Isles, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man:** Sunny periods and squally, heavy showers. Risk of hail and thunder. Wind strong to gale force southwesterly. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen:** Sunny spells with an occasional shower, wintry over the hills. Wind fresh to strong southwesterly. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **SW, NE, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland, N Ireland:** Sunny intervals and frequent showers, heavy and squally with hail and thunder and falling as snow over the higher ground. Wind southwesterly strong to gale force. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **Outlook for Friday and New Year's Eve:** Turning colder with showers, wintry at times. Most of the showers in the north and west, with the best of the sunshine in southern and eastern parts. Overnight frost.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

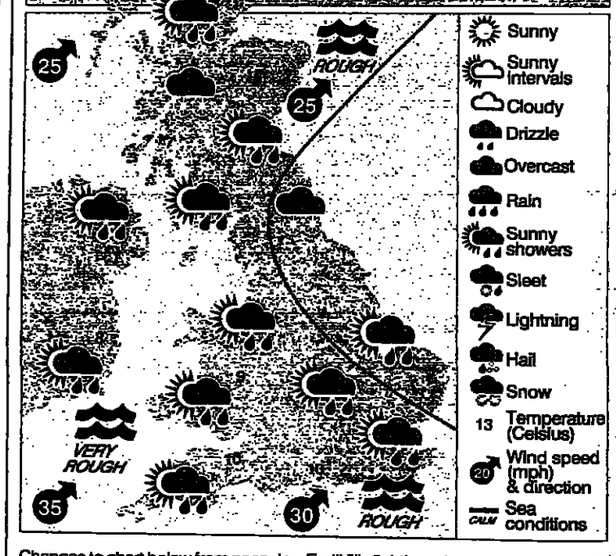
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	2.9	0.02	4	39	s	Leuchars	1.6	0.19	2	36	b
Anglesey	-	0.62	9	48	c	Littlehmptn	-	0.51	13	55	r
Aspatria	0.5	-	4	39	b	Liverpool	-	0.39	5	41	r
Aviemore	1.0	0.01	-1	30	b	London	-	x	14	57	r
Belfast	-	0.18	6	43	r	Lowestoft	x				
Birmingham	-	0.53	12	54	r	Manchester	-	0.49	5	41	r
Bognor R	-	0.43	13	55	r	Margate	-	0.24	13	55	r
Bournem'th	-	0.39	13	55	sh	Minehead	x				
Bristol	-	1.38	13	55	r	Morecambe	-	0.19	6	43	r
Buxton	-	1.46	2	36	r	Newcastle	1.0	0.06	4	39	b
Cardiff	-	0.69	11	52	r	Newquay	-	0.52	12	54	r
Clacton	-	0.42	10	50	r	Norwich	-	0.33	12	54	r
Cleethorpes	x					Nottingham	-	1.57	4	39	r
Colwyn Bay	-	0.96	7	45	r	Oxford	-	0.39	12	54	r
Cromer	-	0.85	6	43	r	Penzance	-	0.61	13	55	sS
Doncaster	-	0.39	4	39	r	Plymouth	-	0.70	12	54	r
Dunbar	x					Poole	-	0.35	13	55	r
Eastbourne	-	0.99	13	55	r	Prestatyn	x	0.61	12	54	d
Edinburgh	2.3	0.13	3	37	b	Ross-o-wye	x				
Eskdalemuir	1.5	0.12	2	36	b	Salcombe	x				
Exmouth	0.1	0.18	13	55	r	Sandown	-	0.61	13	55	r
Falmouth	x	x	13	55	r	Saumtn Snd	-	0.63	12	54	r
Fishguard	-	0.76	11	52	r	Scilly Isles	-	0.41	12	54	r
Folkestone	x					Shanklin	-	0.51	12	54	r
Glasgow	-	0.06	1	34	fg	Shrewsbury	-	0.65	6	43	d
Guernsey	-	0.57	13	55	r	Skegness	-	0.86	6	43	r
Hastings	-	0.63	12	54	r	Southend	-	0.45	1	34	r
Hayling I.	-	0.34	13	55	r	Southport	-	0.41	5	41	d
Herne Bay	-	0.40	13	55	r	Southsea	-	0.37	13	55	r
Hove	-	0.20	11	52	d	Stornoway	1.3	0.48	3	37	sh
Hunstanton	-	0.46	7	45	r	Swanage	-	0.48	13	55	c
Ilfracombe	x					Teignmouth	-	0.34	13	55	r
Isle of Man	-	0.17	7	45	r	Tenby	-	1.04	12	54	r
Jersey	-	0.52	13	55	r	Tiree	0.1	0.05	6	43	b
Kinloss	2.1	-	2	36	b	Torquay	-	0.87	13	55	d
Leeds	-	0.43	4	39	r	Tynemouth	2.5	0.06	4	39	s
Lerwick	1.4	0.09	3	37	sn	Ventnor	-	0.62	12	54	r
						Weymouth	-	0.26	12	54	d

ABROAD

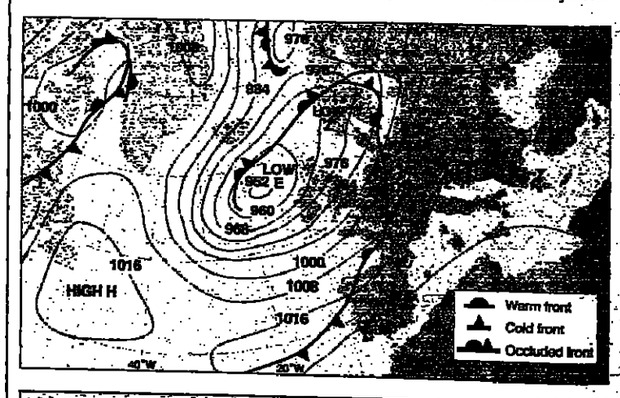
Ajaccio	11	52	f	C'phagn	3	37	s	Madrid	2	36	s
Akrotiri	18	64	s	Corfu	14	57	s	Majorca	15	59	s
Alex'dria	17	63	f	Dublin	13	55	c	Malaga	15	59	s
Algiers	16	61	s	Dubrovnik	13	55	s	Melb'rne	35	95	s
Amst'dm	13	55	c	Faro	13	55	c	Mexico C	19	66	s
Athens	13	55	s	Florence	7	45	c	Miami	21	70	s
Bahrain	18	68	s	Frankfurt	11	52	r	Milan	6	43	f
Bangkok	30	86	s	Funchal	19	66	c	Montreal	-2	28	s
Barbados	-	--		Geneva	8	46	c	Moscow	1	34	sn
Barcelona	11	52	s	Gibraltar	16	59	s	Munich	9	48	r
Beirut	17	63	f	Helsinki	-3	27	f	Nairobi	25	77	s
Belgrade	5	41	s	Hong K	20	68	s	Naples	14	57	f
Berlin	4	39	r	Innsbruck	4	39	f	N Delhi	22	72	s
Bermuda	19	66	r	Istanbul	-	--		N York	9	48	s
Biarritz	15	59	s	Jeddah	32	90	s	Nice	13	55	s
Borde'x	13	55	f	Jo'burg	19	66	f	Oslo	-2	28	s
Brussels	13	55	r	Karachi	22	72	s	Paris	13	55	c
Budapst	1	34	r	L.Palmas	22	72	f	Peking	2	36	s
B Aires	27	81	f	Le Tquet	13	55	f	Perth	25	77	s
Cairo	18	64	f	Lisbon	13	55	c	Prague	10	50	r
Cape Tn	28	82	s	Locarno	5	41	f	Reykjavik	-3	27	f
Chicago	8	46	s	L.Angels	16	61	s	Rhodes	14	57	f
Ch'church	17	63	c	Luxembg	11	52	r	Rio de J	27	81	f
Cologne	13	55	r	Luxor	21	70	s	Riyadh	19	68	s
Rome	14	57	s
---	---	---	---
Salzburg	7	45	r
S F'nsco	8	46	c
Santiago	27	81	s
S Paulo	21	70	d
Seoul	3	37	s
Sing'por	31	88	f
St'kholm	-1	30	s
Strasb'rg	11	52	c
Sydney	27	81	s
Tangier	15	59	s
Tel Aviv	18	64	s
Tenerife	22	72	f
Tokyo	9	48	r
Toronto	5	41	f
Tunis	16	61	c
Valencia	13	55	s
Vanc'ver	7	45	r
Venice	5	41	f
Vienna	11	52	c
Warsaw	3	37	s
Wash'ton	11	52	s
Wel'ngton	18	64	s
Zurich	9	48	r

Temperatures at midday local time. x - not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: low E will fill slightly and move east, and low Z will lose its identity. High H will maintain its central pressure and drift slowly north



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	10.24	8.4	11.08	8.6	Liverpool	7.54	8.4	8.18	8.8
Aberdeen	10 19	4.0	10 42	4.1	Lowestoft	5.46	2.4	6.48	2.3
Avonmouth	3.39	11.2	4 13	11.7	Margate	9.34	4.3	9.20	4.3
Belfast	7.43	3.2	8.08	3.4	Milford Haven	2 50	5.9	3.20	6.2
Cardiff	3.195	10.52	3.52	10 94	Newquay	1 42	6.1	2 12	6.2
Devonport	2.10	4.6	2.42	4.9	Oban	2.49	3.4	3.11	3.6
Dover	7 45	6.0	8.23	6.0	Penzance	1.21	4.6	2.12	4.7
Falmouth	1.40	4.6	2.12	4.7	Portland	9.54	4.4	10.00	4.5
Glasgow	9.54	4.4	10.00	4.5	Portsmouth	3.12	1.7	3.32	1.7
Harwich	6 12	3.6	6.56	3.8	Shoreham	8.00	4.5	8.33	4.3
Holyhead	7 11	5.1	7.37	5.2	Southampton	8.58	5.8	9.33	5.6
Hull	2.34	6.61	3.23	6.87	Swansea	7.26	4.3	7.58	4.1
Ilfracombe	2.27	7.98	2.59	8.27	Tees	2.49	8.2	3.19	8.5
King's Lynn	2.37	5.8	3.26	6.8	Tees	12 05	4.7	12.45	4.8
Leith	11.22	5.0	11.50	5.2	W'lton-on-Nze	8.10	3.8	8.50	3.8

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 9.06 am
Sun sets: 3.59 pm
Moon sets 1.31 pm
Moon rises 4.24 am

London 3.59 pm to 9.06 am
Bristol 4.09 pm to 8.16 am
Edinburgh 3.46 pm to 8.44 am
Manchester 3.57 pm to 8.25 am
Penzance 4.27 pm to 8.21 am

New Moon January 1

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هكذا من الأصل



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Winning on cost by wintering in the sunshine



ARTS 30, 31

Russia, America and France make a little screen magic



BOOKS 32, 33

G.K. Chesterton: a case for beatification?

WHEN THE PRESS WAS MISGUIDED
Page 28

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook — THURSDAY DECEMBER 29 1994

ADRIAN BROOKS



Meeting of minds: Eddie George, left, and Kenneth Clarke are believed to have agreed that an immediate rise in rates is not necessary

Cards stacked against Athena as Pentos calls in the receiver

By Sarah Bagnall

THE clear out at Pentos Group, which owns Dillons, the book seller, and Rymans, the stationer, continued yesterday when Athena, the cards and poster chain, was put into administrative receivership.

The move came after failed attempts by Pentos's new management to sell the loss-making operation, which comprises 131 stores across Britain and employs about 600 staff. A management buyout was also discussed. The shares fell 2½p to 14½p, compared with a high of 170p.

Bill McGrath, who took over as chief executive in January, said: "The termination of our exposure to the losses and cash outflows at Athena will enable us to focus on building value in our remaining businesses." The Athena operation based in America is not affected.

The action is expected to cost up to £10 million, which will push Pentos further into the red for the year to December 31. Before yesterday's news, the City had forecast losses of between £37 million and £40 million, compared with a loss of £70.6 million, including exceptional charges of £56.5 million, last time.

Scott Barnes at Grant Thornton was appointed administrative receiver to Athena at the request of Pentos. He said that it was "relatively rare" for individual parts of companies to be ring-fenced and put into administrative receivership. Athena, which accounts for about 12 per cent of annual group turnover, had been a considerable drain on the company's resources. It is a cash-hungry business, burdened with high rents. Mr Barnes noted that all the properties were leaseholds and that the high rents meant that many of the stores were not financially viable.

The high rents are thought to have been the main stumbling block that the company faced in trying to sell the business. The successful sale of the stores partly depends on the landlords of the properties. A landlord can choose to force the closure of a store, running the risk of not finding a replacement tenant, or he can negotiate a lower rent, increasing the chances of a store being successfully sold as a going concern.

Mr Barnes said: "I am aware of there being some interest in individual stores. But it is early days. In the meantime, we will continue to sell stock from the stores — on the approval of the landlords."

Pentos gained support for its plans from its banks, of which Barclays and Midland are the principal lenders. Bank borrowings are expected to fall to £50 million at December 31, the seasonal low. Pentos said that it would be discussing its lending facilities with its banks at the end of February.

Christmas trading for Athena is believed to have been lacklustre and full-year losses for the operation are estimated at £5 million. Dillons, which accounts for about 70 per cent of turnover, is expected to make a profit in the second half but not enough to return it to the black for the full year. Rymans is expected to incur a small loss in the second half, and Pentos office furniture a profit of less than £1 million.



Athena: ring-fenced

Wage fears mar inflation hopes

By Colin Narbrough and Philip Bassett

TREASURY assurances yesterday of subdued inflation reinforced the prevailing City view that Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, see no immediate need for higher interest rates.

The two held what appears to have been an uneventful monthly monetary policy meeting yesterday, but business leaders said that the effects of rising pay settlements on Britain's competitiveness were being "masked" only by continuing growth in productivity.

The CBI coupled its warning with a renewed call for pay restraint to match the real gains being made on pay by countries such as Germany. The CBI, in its latest Pay Databank figures, says the latest pay deals are continuing to show an upward trend.

Details of yesterday's meeting between Mr Clarke and Mr George will not be made public until February, but the financial markets appeared confident that the two wanted more pointers as to how the economy reacted to the half-point rise in base rates on December 7 before deciding whether to tighten again.

The CBI figures are the latest independent evidence of higher wage deals, in the face of ministers' insistence that the Government has no evidence yet of rising settlements, and that the increase in earnings recorded in official statistics reflects higher bonus and other payments.

Looking at the three months to November 30, the CBI said that pay awards in manufacturing provisionally averaged 3.4 per cent — against 2.3 per cent in the same period a year ago. Service sector rises are increasing even more quickly. They averaged 4.3 per cent to November, against 2.3 per cent a year ago.

The CBI said that about one in eight manufacturers and one in six service sector companies are still freezing pay. But the CBI said of rising settlements that "their effects on competitiveness are masked only by continuing productivity growth in manufacturing". In manufacturing, productivity growth in the second half of 1994 is provisionally estimated by the CBI at 3.7 per cent. This is sharply down on the figure of 4.7 per cent for the same period a year ago.

Robbie Gilbert, the CBI's employment affairs director, said that many of the UK's main competitors were continuing to make advances on pay: "With price rises low, British workers are receiving bigger real rises than the employees of our major competitors — many of whom are now accepting real cuts in pay."

While UK unit labour costs had fallen by 2 per cent in the last year other countries had managed to cut their unit labour costs still further.

The EEF engineering employers says today that the average level of pay rises in engineering is running at 3 per cent, excluding a small number of pay freezes.

The Treasury's latest monthly monetary report, issued yesterday, painted a picture of steady growth based on strongly rising industrial production, especially in investment goods. It said that retail sales remained on an upward trend, but that growth in output for capital goods was faster than for consumer goods.

Indicators of inflation remained relatively subdued, according to the report. It noted that house prices fell slightly in the year to November and that unit wages showed a record fall in October.

The Treasury's panel of independent forecasters lowered its inflation expectation from 3.2 per cent at the end of next year to 2.9 per cent. Current City forecasts for base rates centre on 7.25 per cent by mid-1995.

Labour survey, page 22
Clarke's package, page 25

Mercury rethink after free call fiasco

By Eric Reguly

MERCURY One-2-One may drop free-call campaigns after many customers complained they could not get through on Christmas Day.

"I think we have clearly learnt a lot of lessons from this promotion, and it may lead us to do things differently in the future," said Alan Thompson, a spokesman.

Anyone who bought a One-2-One phone between November 8 and December 24 was eligible to make an unlimited number of free calls anywhere in the world. One-2-One has denied that thousands of customers were unable to make calls because of network congestion.

Mr Thompson said that far fewer than a thousand people have complained and they are eligible for rebates of up to £40 each, reflecting Mercury's calculation that the average value of calls made by new subscribers on Christmas Day, the busiest day of the year, was £41 per customer.

The company, jointly owned by Mercury Communications and US West, said: "Some people who are complaining actually made a lot of international calls. Clearly we won't be making rebates to them."

Customers who were unable to make any international calls will receive rebates. The question is whether customers deserve compensation if they were able to make, say, only five calls out of the 10 they attempted.

The promotion, excluding the rebate, cost One-2-One about £5 million.

Martin Mabbutt, an analyst at James Capel, said the size of the rebate is not significant for One-2-One, and the bad publicity generated by the complaining customers "is the real hit".

Tempus, page 24

Head of firm set to win Belfast grant indicted

By Our World Trade Correspondent

OUNG TA-MING, head of a Taiwan textiles group set to receive a £61 million government grant to build a plant in Belfast, has been indicted over his alleged role in a share scandal.

The Taipei prosecutor also brought indictments against a further 33 officials of the Hualon group in connection with the affair, in which share prices were allegedly manipulated, prompting an £185 million default on share payments. The prosecutor said Mr Oung, who is a member of Taiwan's parliament, and the other Hualon officials, had violated the law on securities transactions and accounting.

Last Friday, Mr Oung was given a 26-month jail sentence by the Taiwan High Court after being convicted for breach of trust in another share scandal. The prosecutor said Mr Oung had manipulated stocks to raise the share prices to borrow money from financial institutions for himself or his subsidiaries.

The default in share payments by two Hualon group broking firms in October triggered a big fall on the Taipei stock market.

The British Government has argued that Mr Oung's run-in with the law in Taiwan has no bearing on the Northern Ireland textile plant project, as he is not directly involved. The European Commission said this month that it would re-examine its approval of the government grant for the Hualon plant.

Pennington, page 23

McDonald's to open 50 new UK outlets in 1995

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

McDONALD'S yesterday announced details of a £65 million expansion in the UK, which will mean more than 50 new fast-food outlets next year and more than 3,000 new jobs.

The company's move, signalled earlier this year by its American parent company as part of a ten-year expansion plan, aims to double the number of its 570 outlets in Britain over the next decade.

McDonald's expansion plan, which is in line with its average growth of eating places and job numbers in recent years, will mean new fast-food outlets in city centres, motorway service areas, leisure centres, airports and on main roads. The company pointed out yesterday that it was refurbishing or expanding many of its city centre outlets as many retailers were deserting town and city centre sites.

Paul Preston, McDonald's UK president and chief executive, said: "Our growth in the UK means a great boost for the employment prospects of young people at a time when jobs are hard to come by."

The jobs will be full-time and part-time, although almost 90 per cent of McDonald's employees work less than 35 hours a week, and about two-thirds are aged 20 or under. The company said that people of all ages were looking for jobs that could fit in with other priorities, such as studying or bringing up children.

Pennington, page 23

Quiet day in the City, busy day in the Jampot

By Martin Waller
Deputy City Editor

IT WAS the barman at the Jamaica, as philosophical as all in his trade, who finally answered the burning question of the day. "Some of these were already here when we opened at 11 o'clock, though most arrived around 11.30," he noted, looking around at the surprising bustle at the bar of the "Jampot," one of the City's best-known watering-holes, halfway through lunchtime.

The question on the lips of all those who headed back to the City after the four-day break was why anyone had bothered. Traders' descriptions of business on the stock market ranged from "very, very quiet" to "pathetic."

The average City professional took one look at the market yesterday morning, put in a token couple of hours' work and headed for the pub or wine bar, probably never to return. The FT-SE 100 share index told part of the story, an initial rise of 25 points reflecting Wall Street's overnight rise. But actual trading was non-existent, in sharp contrast to that being transacted across the four-ale bar. A hardened market-watcher explained: "The least sign of any real business and the market-makers mark the prices up to prevent getting caught. There's zero going on — we've all already done our year-end forecasts and spoken to clients about what we're expecting next year."

By the end of the day, the FT-SE had subsided to 3,095.8, below the 3,100 level again with a rise of 12.4, and stock volumes were a derisory 223 million, about a third of the level of business needed before the market as a whole can cover its costs of opening. Our City professional was probably already at home, to judge from the empty streets, having made an early departure after lunch.

Most brokers ran with a skeleton staff, pulling in perhaps a third of their market-makers. What they actually did is a matter for their consciences, but British Rail caught the mood perfectly, fielding a "modified Saturday service" with just enough trains to warrant keeping open Cannon Street and Blackfriars, normally shut on Saturday and Sunday.

The decision to open at all, for three days bracketed by two extended weekends, was made by a Stock Exchange already cast in the role of Scrooge after opening on Friday, a day viewed by most of the country as a dress rehearsal for Christmas Eve.

The bad news is that two more days of such sluggish trade beckon, and Friday is once again a full day's business. An Exchange spokeswoman said the decision to trade was taken by its main board, made up of representatives of the member firms.

And how many were beavering away at the Stock Exchange Tower yesterday? "The majority — not absolutely everybody," she admitted.

Market report, page 24

Business Today

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3095.8	(+12.4)
Yield	4.16%	
FT-SE A All share	1532.64	(+6.27)
Nikkei	19665.53	(-45.83)
New York:		
Dow Jones	3841.84	(-19.85)*
S&P Composite	460.48	(-1.93)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5½%*	(5⅝%)
Long Bond	96²⁹/₃₂*	(97⁷/₃₂)
Yield	7.77%*	(7.75%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6⁵/₁₆%	(6⁵/₁₆%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	103¹⁵/₃₂	(102²⁹/₃₂)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5435*	(1.5455)
London:		
$	1.5435	(1.5469)
DM	2.4256	(2.4387)
FFr	8.3820	(8.4265)
SFr	2.0493	(2.0609)
Yen	154.88	(154.90)
£ Index	79.5	(79.7)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.5715*	(1.5758)
FFr	5.4305*	(5.4420)
SFr	1.3278*	(1.3302)
Yen	100.35*	(100.30)
$ Index	83.7	(83.7)

Tokyo close Yen 100.48

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Mar) $16.45 ($15.95)

GOLD

London close $382.00 ($381.55)

* denotes midday trading price

Sun rising

Britain has turned a $2.4 billion current account deficit on trade with Japan into a $310 million surplus for the first half of this year, according to official figures released in Tokyo yesterday. The Japanese Finance Ministry also said Britain was the leading source, ahead of America, of capital inflow into Japan during the first half of the year. Page 22

Christmas cheer

The first official trading statement on Christmas in the high street cheered up the stock market yesterday. Goldsmiths, the jeweller, revealed a 19 per cent rise in sales during December. Page 23, Tempus 24

Are you leaving your heirs less tax more inheritance?

Naturally you want to leave all of your estate to your family or dependants or at least to someone of your choosing.

But the truth is that without some forward planning your heirs will receive only what is left after the Inland Revenue take their share in the form of Inheritance Tax when you die.

And that share can be quite dramatic.

For example, on an estate of £400,000 (including house, contents, personal effects, stocks and shares, bonds, trusts, cash, life assurance and any inheritances) the Exchequer stands to be an equal beneficiary. If there were three children they would each get £100,000 but the Exchequer would also take £100,000.

And it gets worse; above £150,000 the rate is a flat 40%. At Towry Law we can help you make plans to reduce your liability and pass on your accumulated wealth to your chosen beneficiaries.

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Unemployment 'has hit 40% of workforce'

By Philip Bassett
Industrial Editor

UNEMPLOYMENT has affected as much as 40 per cent of the workforce over the past five years, the Labour party claims today, and it suggests the widespread impact of unemployment is the reason for people feeling insecure at work.

The party emphasises that unemployment is not an economic and social problem confined to a small and unchanging group of people but one which "hits vast swaths of the population". Labour's calculations use unpublished figures obtained by the House of Commons library from a Department of Employment database.

Taking into account people who have been unemployed and have claimed benefit more than once during the period, the party says that the proportion of people experiencing unemployment is highest among men. A total of 6.9 million men have been out of work and claiming benefit during the period, or 44 per cent of the male workforce. By comparison, 3.9 million women — a third of the female workforce — have been without work.

Labour says that 10.8 million people have been unemployed at some point during the last five years, or 39 per cent of the UK workforce.

Labour analysts emphasised that the figures included only those officially registered as unemployed on the Government's definitions; they therefore claimed that the true figure is probably higher.

Harriet Harman, Labour's shadow employment secretary, says today: "Unemployment is not simply an issue for those people out of work at a particular time, but also for vast numbers of those in work. These figures explain why people at work continue to feel insecure. They know, from their own personal experience, that unemployment is a threat which constantly hangs over them."

Labour argues that instead of cutting benefits and training for the unemployed, the Government should be ensuring minimum standards for those in work, and should put forward a large-scale welfare-to-work programme to help the unemployed to get into jobs.

However, the Department of Employment said that simply counting the people who had become unemployed over any particular period of time was not a useful way of trying to understand the labour market. Stressing the fluidity of the labour market, it said that half of those people who became unemployed left the claimant count within three months.

Pennington, page 23

UK trade with Japan moves into surplus

By Colin Narbrough, World Trade Correspondent

BRITAIN has achieved a turnaround in trade with Japan, chalking up a $310 million current account surplus in the first half of this year, compared with a $2.4 billion deficit at the same stage last year.

Official monthly figures issued in Tokyo yesterday showed that Japan's politically-sensitive current account rose by an overall 15.4 per cent year-on-year in November to $9.7 billion.

The finance ministry said Britain was the leading source, ahead of America, of the net inflow of $12.5 billion of long-term capital into Japan during the first six months, reversing the outflows during the first half of 1993. Some $24 billion of net purchases of Japanese securities came from Britain.

The country-by-country figures confirmed the failure of the Clinton Administration to dent Japan's current account surplus with America, a persistent cause of political friction. In the first six months, Japan's surplus with America rose more than 15 per cent to $26.2 billion.

During the same period, the Japanese surplus with the European Union contracted by 36.8 per cent to almost $12 billion. Japanese tourists played an important part in narrowing the surplus with Europe.

Significantly, Japan's big surplus with the rest of fast-expanding Asia grew by almost 21 per cent to $33.8 billion, as it supplied much of the technology and components behind the region's industrial rise.

Japan's higher overall current account surplus in November came in spite of record imports. Japanese officials were quick to point out that the increase was a blip and that the trend remained towards a shrinking surplus.

Renewed growth in the current account surplus, which followed four months of year-on-year declines, reflected a 20.3 per cent jump in the surplus on merchandise trade, to almost $11 billion. That was in part a function of the value of the yen against the dollar.

Finance ministry officials in Tokyo said seasonal factors had contributed to the rise in the current account surplus and that continued double-digit growth in imports to Japan in November confirmed the underlying trend towards smaller trade surpluses. Export volumes were up 10.6 per cent, while import volumes were 18.6 per cent higher. The invisible trade deficit was almost five times bigger, at $694 million.

In the first 11 months of this year, Japan's current account surplus, which measures trade in tangible goods, services and some capital transfers, dropped 1.9 per cent in dollar terms, but was 9.7 per cent lower in yen terms.

After US-Japanese talks in London this week, the Ministry of International Trade and Finance (MITI) in Tokyo said that it believes negotiations with the Americans on trade in cars could resume soon.

☐ For the first time in 15 years, America built more cars, trucks and minivans in than Japan, according to estimates by Ward's Automotive Reports.

The Detroit-based trade publication said American output totalled 12.2 million units in 1994, up from 10.9 million in 1993. That compared with an estimated 11 million vehicles built in Japan this year.



South Korean dealers celebrate the close of the 1994 trading year at the Korea Stock Exchange with a traditional shower of order slips. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index rose 16.84 per cent during the year, although on the last day of trading there were just marginal gains thanks to window-dressing by institutional investors

Lautro sued for £6m by former agent

A FORMER Norwich Union tied agent is suing Lautro, the insurance watchdog, for a reported £6 million (Liz Dolan writes). Victor Tee, one-time controlling shareholder of Winchester Group, a failed financial services company, has issued a high court writ alleging negligence and fraudulent misrepresentation.

A spokesman for the Personal Investment Authority (PIA), which is in the process of taking over Lautro's role, said: "We have been notified that a writ is on the way, but we have not seen it yet. There will be no-one in our legal department until next week, so we can make no further comment until then."

Lautro banned Norwich Union from accepting business from Winchester in 1990. The company was accused of persuading customers to switch to Norwich Union policies against their best interests.

Bad debt task force helps assure Banesto recovery

From Reuter in Madrid

A YEAR after Mario Conde was ousted from the chair of Banco Español de Crédito (Banesto), the bank is poised for a steady recovery and Spain's banking system has weathered a period in which its stability came under serious threat.

About 80 per cent of the 1 trillion pesetas (£4.8 billion) in deposits lost after the Bank of Spain's December 28 intervention has been restored and loan losses reduced.

Though the bank will incur a loss for 1994, it is expected to make a modest second-half profit, while bank executives forecast appreciable profits by 1996. Dividends should be resumed in 1997.

Banesto shares were suspended a year ago and, by late afternoon of the same day, the Bank of Spain had removed the bank's board. Señor Conde was imprisoned on fraud charges last Friday. Banesto had been on the brink of Spain's biggest bankruptcy, with a 466 billion peseta loan loss and pension provisioning gap. A 605 billion rescue by the Bank of Spain averted collapse.

The affair sent shock waves through local markets, but banks in general, after a tough year that was highlighted by rumours relating to bad debts at Banco Central Hispano, are looking forward to improvement next year as economic recovery underpins loan portfolios.

The work of an 800-strong bad debt task force, has helped Banesto to cut non-performing loans by 20 billion pesetas a month since May. They now stand at about 500 billion pesetas.

Banesto's plan to divest industrial holdings has registered revenue of 45 billion pesetas, from sales of stakes in Carburos Metalicos and Antena 3, the television station, among others.

Banesto's shares have been relatively stable. They stood at 895 pesetas yesterday, against a high of 1,280 in May and 855 on resuming trade in February.



Conde: fraud charges

Business Roundup

Atomic weapons job cuts predicted

ABOUT 1,000 jobs could be axed at the Atomic Weapons Establishment after the decision to bring in private contractors, according to an independent report commissioned by the Government. It gives warning of the human cost of privatisation. Several hundred jobs have already been cut from AWE's 6,000 workforce through voluntary redundancy over the past six months and many more are expected to go next year.

Management of the nuclear centres at Aldermaston and Burghfield in Berkshire, Cardiff, and Foulness in Essex, was contracted out to the Anglo-American Hunting-BRAE consortium in April, 1993. The contractor needs to reduce overheads, but the cost of introducing 65 safety measures emphasised in a critical report by the Health and Safety Executive in October will be high. The report said standards fell below those in other high hazard industries, including nuclear facilities.

James Dickie chairman

JAMES DICKIE, the engineering specialist, has a new chairman. Peter Bullock, a non-executive director, is taking over from Hugh Jack, who has decided to leave the board after eight years in a variety of non-executive roles, the company said. Mr Bullock, a chartered engineer with broad industrial and marketing experience, is a director of 600 Group and Syltone and was formerly group chief executive of James Neil Holdings and managing director of Flymo.

New BP chief sells shares

JOHN BROWNE, who becomes group chief executive of BP next July, yesterday sold £417,300 of shares in the company. He had been granted options to buy 31,500 BP shares at 271p and 78,000 BP shares at 275p, a total cost of £299,865. Of these 109,500 shares he sold 97,500 shares at 428p, against a market price of 431p. Mr Browne is currently chief executive of the group's exploration division. BP's share price has soared since the trauma of falling oil prices in the early 1990s.

Mexican peso surges

MEXICO'S new peso rose sharply against the dollar in early trade as investors responded to a surge in domestic interest rates. It gained 35 centavos in same-day trade, and 20 centavos in 24-hour and 48-hour contracts to its new level of 5.20/5.40 in all contracts. "There was selling of dollars due to the rise in interest rates," one trader said. The primary rate on 28-day Treasury bills earlier rose 1,500 basis points from last week to 31 per cent in the central bank's weekly auction.

ICI's Indonesian plan

ICI has announced plans to build a new £6.5 million surfactants plant in Indonesia. The site, to be built 35 kilometres east of Jakarta, will supply chemicals to local textiles, agrochemicals and paper processing markets. The project is a joint venture with ICI's Indonesian sales agents, PT Galic Bina Mada and PT Perdoni. ICI will control 60 per cent of the project's equity and the two partners are to take 20 per cent each.

Graseby agreement

GRASEBY, the electronics group, has secured a distribution agreement for its food contaminant detection system with Anritsu, one of Japan's leading producers of quality control systems for the food industry. Under the agreement, Anritsu will be Graseby's exclusive licensee and distributor in Japan for a high-speed X-ray system for an initial five years. Graseby said the agreement, including licence payments, will amount to £940,000 over the first 12 months.

Mackie's £9m order

MACKIE International, the engineering group that floated on the stock market three months ago, announced orders totalling £9 million yesterday. The biggest order, worth £5 million involving its textiles division, came from companies in South Korea, Spain and Germany. The Belfast group's environmental arm has secured a further £4 million of contracts for sludge and water treatment projects in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Jaguar wins tax boost for sales in Italy

By Kevin Eason
Motoring Correspondent

JAGUAR's expansion plans were boosted yesterday by the news that the Italian Government has abolished taxes that put up the cost of its cars by almost a quarter.

Jaguar led protests to the European Commission to force the Italians to remove extra duties that meant its luxury saloons were being taxed at 15 times the rate of domestically manufactured models from the Fiat Group. The Coventry company sells only about 600 cars a year in Italy, a figure that was falling fast under pressure from taxes, which Nick Scheele, the chairman, described as discriminatory and a "serious infringement of the EC treaty and the concept of the single market".

Simon Holmes, Jaguar's legal adviser at SJ Berwin & Co in London, said yesterday that the Italian Government's decision was a "good Christmas present" for Jaguar as well as BMW and Mercedes-Benz, the German carmakers that joined the protest. Ministers took action in spite of the chaos caused by the resignation of Silvio Berlusconi, the Prime Minister.

Jaguar can now target the Italian market for a sales push of its XJ saloons, which were launched in the autumn and are selling fast around the world. Executives expect one of the busiest January sales in Britain and demand should push output from the Coventry factory from about 32,000 saloons and sports cars this year to 38,000 in 1995.

Gilts suffer worst year since 1955

GILTS have had their worst year for 40 years, according to SG Warburg, the broker. The poor performance comes despite continuing low inflation and relatively modest increases in interest rates to control strong economic growth (George Sivell writes).

Over the past year, investors would, on average, have been better off holding cash than either government stocks or shares, reckons Warburgs, which used the FT All-Share index and the three-month interbank rate for comparison.

Cash, however, had its worst year since 1964 because of low interest rates. Shares, which normally out-perform gilts, failed to do so in 1994 and produced a similar negative return of 6 per cent.

Warburgs believes gilts' bleak performance was a correction after three good years.

Pennington, page 23

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.09	1.92
Austria Sch	18.13	16.63
Belgium Fr	53.11	48.81
Canada $	2.274	2.114
Cyprus Cypf	0.795	0.730
Denmark Kr	10.16	9.36
Finland Mkk	7.99	7.29
France Fr	8.90	8.20
Germany Dm	2.59	2.38
Greece Dr	397.00	372.00
Hong Kong $	12.60	11.60
Ireland Pt	1.06	0.98
Italy Lira	2645.00	2490.00
Japan Yen	169.50	153.50
Malta	0.619	0.564
Netherlds Gld	2.677	2.647
Norway Kr	11.22	10.42
Portugal Esc	261.50	243.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.35
Spain Pta	213.50	199.50
Sweden Kr	12.20	11.40
Switzerland Fr	2.19	2.01
Turkey Lira	refer	57198.0
USA $	1.643	1.513

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank plc. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

THE TIMES
Win the trip of a lifetime to the biggest party in history

Today is day four of *The Times* Millennium 2000, which offers readers the opportunity to spend New Year's Eve 1999 crossing the International Date Line to both Fiji and the Cook Islands to see in the new millennium twice. First prize is a 28 day world air cruise for two culminating in New Year 1999 in Fiji and the Cook Islands to join in the festivities. The trip takes in Dubai, Thailand, Singapore, Tucson, Washington and Sydney. It includes helicopter sightseeing over the Fiji Islands and hot-air ballooning over the Arizona desert, and would cost £64,000 to book in 1999.

A second prize of a ten day stay for two in Fiji and the Cook Islands worth up to £7,000 and a third prize of two tickets chosen from any of the millennium party venues available to readers are also on offer.

Should you be unsuccessful in the competition, you can still take part in the festivities by booking the Fiji and Cook Islands trip separately or taking advantage of our selection of deluxe party venues round the world.

The parties are the brainchild of The Millennial Foundation, a non profit-making charity which is organising fundraising parties to help specific local charities across the world. In St Petersburg, for instance, the money will help restore the Hermitage gallery and fund the Kirov Ballet.

You could, for example, celebrate the dawn of the new millennium at a gala party at the top of the World Trade Center overlooking the Statue of Liberty and Manhattan and stay in luxury at the Pierre Four Seasons Hotel on Central Park at Fifth Avenue. The one-week trip starts on December 28, 1999. The cost in 1999 would be £3,250 per person, but readers can secure their places now for £2,250 each. Details of how to book this, and other millennium gala parties, will appear on Saturday.



TOKEN 4



Question 4
New York lies at the junction of which two rivers?

To enter the competition collect the 18 tokens and answer the 18 questions which are appearing between December 26 and Saturday January 14. Send the tokens and answers on a separate sheet of paper, stating in not more than 15 words why you would like to join in the celebrations, to: *The Times* Millennium 2000 Competition, 5 Brittons Court, London EC88 6NG. Closing date January 31, 1995. Normal *Times* competition rules apply.

Details of how to book the millennium gala parties, details of which appeared on Monday, will appear on Saturday. Further information about the parties can be obtained by writing to: Millennium 2000 Ltd, Freepost GW 7623, Glasgow G3 7BR.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

AMEY, RICHARD FRANCIS NORMAN AMEY late of Salisbury, Wiltshire died there on 4th March 1993 (Estate about £20,000)
BROWN, BENJAMIN WILLIAM BROWN late of Hull, Humberside died there on 7th June 1994 (Estate about £57,000)
CHYSKA nee MEIKAR, ALICE CHYSKA nee MEIKAR WIDOW late of Bristol, Avon died there on 20th January 1993 (Estate about £10,000)
DAVIS, TERENCE DAVIS late of Warley, West Midlands died at Dudley, West Midlands on 22nd September 1994 (Estate about £26,000)
MANHOOD, PETER MANHOOD late of Sidcup, Kent died there on 22nd January 1994 (Estate about £70,000)
VIDAKOVIC, VELIMAR VIDAKOVIC late of Slough, Berkshire died there on 16th April 1993 (Estate about £20,000)
The kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (BV), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF CLIFTON COURT PROPERTIES LTD
AND
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company convened under the provisions of S.98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, and held on 20 December 1994, I, Melvyn Julian Carter, of Carter Backer Winter, Hill House, Highgate Hill, London, N19 5LU was duly appointed Liquidator of the company.
M J Carter
Liquidator
Dated this twenty first day of December 1994.

LEGAL NOTICES

Ealing Studios Limited
- Administrative Receiver appointed 14/10/94
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at Holland House, 185 Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BJ on Monday 9 January 1995 at 2.30pm for the purpose of receiving a report prepared by the administrative receiver and if thought fit to establish a committee ("the creditors' committee") to exercise the functions conferred on it by or under the Insolvency Act 1986. Proxies to be used at the meeting must be lodged, together with any claim to be made by the creditor at the offices of the Administrative Receiver, Hobson House, 155 Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BJ no later than 12 noon on Friday 6 January 1995.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or to be represented at the meeting.
A R PRICE
Administrative Receiver
Date: 19 December 1994.

No 007257 of 1994
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
REGISTRAR BUCKLEY
IN THE MATTER OF WINDSOR (U.K) HOLDINGS COMPANY LIMITED
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 14th December 1994 confirming the reduction of capital of the above named Company from £60,000,000 to £47,532,231 and the minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 16th December 1994.
DATED this 21st day of December 1994.
Herbert Smith, Exchange House, Primrose Street, London, EC2A 2HS, Solicitors for the above named Company.

CARTHUSIAN COURT LIMITED
- COMPANY NO: 1766973
PIPINANS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
- COMPANY NO: 1896044
SPIKE HOMES LIMITED
- COMPANY NO: 792082
STUNTBRAND (SOUTH AND WEST) LIMITED
- COMPANY NO: 554202
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rules 4.182A and 11.8 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the Liquidator of the above companies intends to make a distribution to the creditors. Creditors are required to submit full details of their claims and their names and addresses to the Liquidator, Roger Smith at KPMG Peat Marwick, PO Box 730, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP on or before Friday 3 February 1995, which is the last day for proving claims. Notice is also given that the Liquidator proposes to make final distributions and that such distributions will be made without regard to any claims not made by the date mentioned.
Note: the companies are able to pay all their known creditors in full.
Dated: 19 December 1994
R Smith - Liquidator

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
HOLTSIDE LIMITED
REGISTERED NUMBER 1787288
Notice is hereby given that on 21 December 1994 J A Talbot and P E Tuch of Arthur Anderson of P.O Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT were appointed Joint Administrative Receivers of the above company by Barclays Bank plc under the powers conferred in a debenture dated 6 October 1994 containing fixed and floating charges over the assets and undertakings of the company.
Dated this 22nd day of December 1994.
J A Talbot and P E Tuch
Joint Administrative Receivers

NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO SEND IN PARTICULARS OF DEBTS OR CLAIMS
Company Name: Aspend Limited
Company No: 1235992
Company Name: Betancuria Limited
Company No: 2446902
Company Name: Leisure Bingo Limited
Company No: 1927159
Company Name: Ritz Bingo Limited
Company No: 1846608
Company Name: Ritz Clubs Limited
Company No: 1846609
Company Name: Ritz Group Limited
Company No: 1324313
Company Name: Sea Life Centre Weymouth Limited
Company No: 1771301
Company Name: Seal Sanctuary Plc
Company No: 2342293
Company Name: The Weymouth Butterfly Farm Limited
Company No: 1787302
Company Name: Winchmore Investments Limited
Company No: 1660251
NOTICE is hereby given that the Creditors of the above named Companies are required on or before 9 February 1995 to send in their names and addresses, with particulars of their Debts or Claims, and the names and addresses, of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Richard John Hill of KPMG Peat Marwick, 15 Pembroke Road, Bristol BS8 3BQ the Liquidator of each of the said companies, and, if so required by notice in writing by the said Liquidator, are by their Solicitors or personally to come in and prove their said Debts and Claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
This notice is purely formal and all known Creditors have been, or will be paid in full.
Dated 22 December 1994.
Signature of Liquidator
R.J. Hill

SATOR SERVICES LIMITED (IN MEMBERS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS. On 15 December 1994 the above company was placed into Members Voluntary Liquidation and M Fishman of PO Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT was appointed Liquidator by the Members.
The Liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to M Fishman, PO Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT by 15 February 1995.
The Liquidator also gives notice under the provision of Rules 4.182A(6) that on 15 March 1995 he intends to make a final return to creditors who have submitted claims by 15 February 1995 and that there will be no further distribution to creditors. The final return to creditors will be made without regard to the claim of any person in respect of any debt not already proved.
The company is able to pay all it's known creditors in full
M. Fishman, Liquidator
21/12/94

ALEXIS JEWELLERS LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act, 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Poppleton and Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD is appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioner who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require.
DATED THIS 20TH DAY OF DECEMBER 1994
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
D C HUTTER
DIRECTOR

TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
071-782 7344 OR FAX: 071-782 7827
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

☐ The great high street panto? Oh yes it is ☐ More hamburger flippers on McDonald's menu ☐ Embarrassment over Hualon

Christmas sales humbug

☐ THERE are few sights more seasonal than that of a long line of lost souls queuing to get into the local Arndale Centre car park for what used to be known, under the old calendar, as the January sales.

The coincidental revelation that two people in five have been brushed by the wings of the dark angel of unemployment gives a pretty clear idea why those souls were out there after Christmas rather than before it. Politicians look for the "feel-good" factor, but it is hard to feel too good when money is tight, the memory of hard times may be fresh, and there is the ever-looming fear that they could return.

Patterns of lending over the past couple of years clearly show that those who feel insecure at work avoid debt; the insecure shopper is also now realising that a few days' restraint at the end of the year can mean 20 to 50 per cent off the price of the goods.

The four-act play that is the British High Street Christmas has the familiarity of the best-known pantomime. The season, say the sages on or about December 10, is slow to start this year. The customer is staying away, and retailers are pinning their hopes on that elusive last-minute rush to the shops.

The retailers themselves take up the refrain just as the last few windows are being opened on the nation's advent calendars. The sheep are indeed flocking to the market again, and this Christmas looks like being as busy as ever.

The third act is the "pandemonium" of the sales and its accompanying chorus line of desperate credit card-wielding customers. Cheery trading statements delivered by the big retailers in the wings suggest that, having off-loaded the good stuff before the holiday, they have now managed to get rid of all the tat as well.

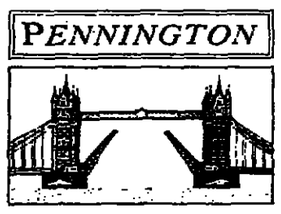
A few weeks later comes the last act, the official retail sales figures, which show a couple of percentage points off last year's already depressed figures.

This year Christmas, for those unlucky enough to have gone into work at all yesterday, has effectively been a five-day break, all good news for the retailers, many of whom opened on what was officially Boxing Day. It may be a sad reflection on the state of the family in Britain, but three days of close proximity with the TV and the relatives make that ramp up to the Arndale car park look quite an attractive prospect.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that while the sales have indeed been busy so far, the pre-Christmas "rush" was nothing of the sort. The epilogue to the seasonal production will come this summer when the retail trade as a whole is forced to reveal, under the full scrutiny of the Stock Exchange in the next reporting season, just how good or bad this Christmas was. Switching from full-price trading to catering for the bargain-hunters can only further erode margins earned by stores already handing over much of their goods without retaining much more than a minimal profit.

McJobs — with relish

☐ JUST as carworkers were 50 years ago, and City yuppies a decade ago, jobs in fast food are now seen as a characteristic of modern employment and the economy in the 1990s. For some, hamburger flippers are all that is valueless: shoddy, insecure jobs creating unhealthy, unneeded products. For others, they em-



body the flexibility and entrepreneurialism which is vital for economic growth.

That such jobs now have their own name — McJobs — signifies their impact. That such a name explicitly reflects one player in the market shows how dominant is McDonald's.

McDonald's announcement yesterday of 3,000 new jobs in Britain in 1995 is unusual in a number of respects. First, the new year is traditionally a time of labour-shedding, as employers match the post-Christmas gloom of bleak January to their perceived need to cut numbers, which despite the fall in unemployment is still a key feature of most large firms in the UK.

Second, it is unusual in that McDonald's does not claim that it is new. Most companies, aware of both the need to satisfy the City and of the opportunity of exploiting its notoriously short memory span, tend to announce job changes — especially, though not exclusively, firings rather than hirings — a number of times. McDonald's first mentioned these jobs back in April, and did not try to be too greedy in its second bite at the cherry yesterday.

Third, it is unusual in not being a first. McDonald's opened 58 new restaurants in 1994, and created about 3,000 new jobs in doing so. Its announcement yesterday is largely a believable declaration of its intent of a repeat order in 1995.

What is far from unusual is that most of the 3,000 jobs for 1995 will be part-time, aimed at young people. At a time when the official employment figures are only just beginning to turn upwards, these are at least jobs being provided — which is more than can be said for the many supposedly blue-chip companies who like to look down at their noses at hamburger flippers. And who are readying the latest job announcements of their own — cuts, not new jobs.

More gloom for Belfast

☐ THE sorry saga of Hualon in Belfast is an ominous precursor to the hoped-for rush of outside investment into Northern Ireland heralded by the cease-fires, and the ultimate losers could be the long-suffering workforce of the Province.

Britain put up £61 million to help to fund the new textile plant in Belfast, a grant graciously permitted by the European Commission. Now from Taipei comes the news of a swoop on a total of 34 executives as part of the state investigation into alleged share-rigging including its embattled head, Oung Ta-Ming. Meanwhile, Brussels is saying it may go back on the original decision to allow the grant because the proposed plant could damage what is left of the European textiles industry.

Brussels says this back-tracking stems from legal action by other textile producers and presumably therefore has no connection with the scandal which has engulfed the company in Taiwan.

London pleads that Hualon's travails have nothing to do with whether the company should be encouraged with tax-payers' cash to come to Belfast.

But the affair is doubly embarrassing for Britain, which has complained bitterly, and rightly so, at state aid to continental businesses such as airlines, steel-makers or computer builders and is now cast in an unaccustomed protectionist role. Meanwhile the scandal is, in the public mind, increasingly taking on overtones of the de Lorean affair, the most ill-judged public investment decision since the Troubles began.

Investment illogic

☐ THE truth is out. Those investors too lazy or too bewildered by conflicting financial advice to withdraw their money from the bank did best of all this year despite low interest rates, a fact worth bearing in mind when viewing City forecasts of the FT-SE at 3,400 a year hence. Conversely, by typically perverse market illogic, rising real returns to savers might just send equities shooting ahead again.

Globe-trotting ends with Unilever deals in India and Spain

By George Sivell, assistant business editor

UNILEVER, the Anglo-Dutch food and consumer products group, yesterday announced deals in Spain and India.

In Spain, Unilever has reached agreement with Danone, its French food rival, to buy the 60 per cent stake that Danone holds in Frudesa, one of Spain's leading frozen food businesses. Unilever is to take full management control of Frudesa, which says it is a market leader in vegetables and a strong number two in the frozen fish market.

Unilever did not disclose the price for the stake but revealed that Frudesa had annual sales of £110 million this year and that it employs 1,200. Unilever also said that it intended to raise further its stake in Frudesa during the coming years.

Unilever says the Spanish market for frozen foods offers good growth prospects because consumption per head is below the European average. Currently, Unilever has only the Iglo brand on the Spanish frozen food market. In the whole of Spain, Unilever has 3,500 staff on its payroll after 45 years of activity in the country selling brands such as Flora, Lux, Pond's, Signal and Elizabeth Arden.

Unilever also announced to the Bombay Stock Exchange yesterday that its Brooke Bond Lipton India subsidiary had agreed a marketing alliance with Kwality, India's largest producer of ice-cream.

Again, Unilever gave no financial details, but said that Brooke Bond, which produces Wall's frozen deserts in India, will invest in and help to build up the Kwality brand.

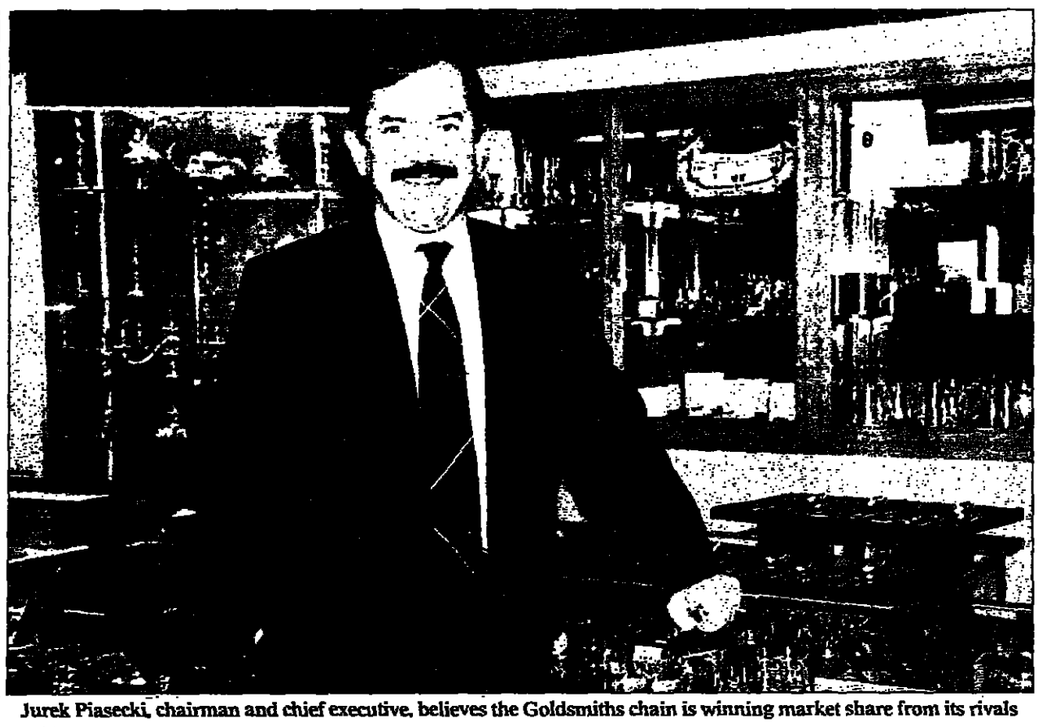
Kwality is run by four families that control different geographical areas of the operations in the country. The eastern Indian family has not agreed to the deal with Wall's but Brooke Bond said that it had forged an alliance with the families in the North, West and South, which account for 85 per cent of the volume of Kwality sales and two thirds of the geographical area of India. The marketing operation is to be unified, Unilever said.

The deals bring to an end a year of doing deals in exotic places for Unilever. The group announced in September a joint venture to produce detergents at Zhangjiakou in the Hebei province of China. There was also an agreement in June with Suchel, the Cuban state detergents business, to market detergents and toiletries on the island.

The same month saw Unilever agree with the State Property Committee of Kazakhstan, the former Soviet republic, to buy two state-owned margarine factories, in Alma Ata and Karanganda. Unilever, along with Eastman Chemicals, signed a letter of intent in April to make food emulsifiers in Malaysia.

Unilever shares rose 3p to £11.66 yesterday.

Tempus, page 24



Jurek Piasecki, chairman and chief executive, believes the Goldsmiths chain is winning market share from its rivals

Approval in US for Wellcome

WELLCOME, the British pharmaceutical company, said its American subsidiary has received approval from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to market treatments for epilepsy and lung cancer (Sarah Bagnall writes).

Lamictal, the anti-epileptic drug which is already licensed in 46 countries, has been approved as an add-on treatment for adults suffering from partial seizures, the most common form of seizure. Lamictal sales reached £11.7 million in the six months to June 1994.

Navelbine is the first new drug for treating ambulatory patients with advanced, unresectable non-small cell lung cancer to be approved in the US for 20 years.

Goldsmiths Christmas sales soar

By Sarah Bagnall

THE first official news of Christmas trading on the high street emerged yesterday when Goldsmiths, the jeweller and distributor of Cartier, Omega, Rolex and Gucci, revealed a 19 per cent rise in December sales. As a result, the jeweller expects pre-tax profits for the year to January 28 to beat City forecasts of £2.8 million to £3 million.

The upbeat statement prompted analysts to lift their forecasts to between £3 million and £3.1 million. Final dividend forecasts have been raised from 1.6p to 1.9p-2p.

Jurek Piasecki, chairman and chief executive, said trading in the 117 branches was strong throughout December. However, he said the increase did not reflect improved trading conditions. Sales benefited from improved efficiencies, a store modernisation programme and restructuring within the industry. Mr Piasecki said: "I think we are stealing market share. For the industry as a whole, the last month there was an increase in sales was January 1994. Since then, sales in each month have declined or been flat. In contrast, Goldsmiths' sales have been up every month."

Christmas demand helped lift sales in the 11 months to December 24 by 13.3 per cent. On a like-for-like basis, sales rose 12 per cent in December and 11.4 per cent in the 11 months to December 24. Margins have improved because of a shift in product mix.

Tempus, page 24



Nadir sells houses to cut debts

ASIL NADIR, the fugitive former head of the collapsed Polly Peck International (PPI), has been forced to sell residential property in northern Cyprus to pay a £250,000 first instalment of his debts to the government (Colin Narbrough writes).

Government officials in Nicosia said last night that payment this week by Mr Nadir of the outstanding tax debt of Voyager Kibris, the PPI subsidiary that owns two luxury hotels in his native northern Cyprus, was the first part of a deal with the government to settle all his estimated £7 million debt to the authorities.

Mr Nadir ran the hotels, Jasmine Court and Palm Beach, until they were sequestered by the government, which wanted payment from him of rental, tax, national insurance and other debts.

Representatives of Voyager Mediterranean, owner of Voyager Kibris, based on the Isle of Man, last week paid the outstanding land rent on the hotels to the government. They said the authorities' formal acceptance of the payment was an important step in securing recognition of the hotels' lawful ownership.

Future for buyouts is less favourable

By Martin Barrow, City News Editor

AFTER a strong recovery for management buyouts in 1994, the outlook for the next 12 months is less favourable, says the Centre for Management Buy-Out Research (CMBOR).

With exits by flotation expected to remain difficult, management buyout teams are likely to face stiffer competition from quoted companies, whose ability to raise finance for acquisitions has improved. This points to continuing problems for buyouts in matching competing offers while ensuring that the resulting debts can be serviced.

"As 1995 unfolds, realistic pricing will be key to avoiding a potential repetition of the excesses of the 1988-89 period," said Lucinda Horler Webber, director of Barclays Development Capital, co-sponsor with Touche Ross Corporate Finance of CMBOR, which is based at Nottingham University.

The improvement in the buyout market in 1994 was not as substantial as anticipated, says CMBOR. Exit by flotation has proved more difficult and completion of some larger deals, notably in the case of National Car Parks, was held back because of a reluctance to pay high prices.

The number of buyouts and buy-ins in 1994 is estimated to have increased 12 per cent to 537 transactions, with an accompanying rise of 18 per cent in the total value of deals to £3.4 billion. Although total numbers remain below the level of 1990-91, the value of transactions was the highest since the exceptional year of 1989.

The main contributor to the growth in the overall buyout market was the continuing improvement in management buy-ins. The value of buy-ins rose 38 per cent to £970 million, with 139 transactions completed. This compared with a rise of 11 per cent in the total value of buyouts to £2.4 billion, with 398 deals.

The 211 exits from buyouts and buy-ins was a record, with 47 stock market flotations, the highest total for a single year. Somewhat surprisingly, CMBOR's research suggests buyouts subsequently floated on the stock market have, as a group, outperformed the stock market as a whole since the beginning of 1992.

Thomas Pink gets shirty with Barclays

By Robert Miller

THOMAS Pink, one of the City's leading shirt suppliers, is hoping that a burst of seasonal goodwill might end a long running dispute with Barclays. For some months, Thomas Pink has refused to accept Barclays' cheques, even those backed by a cheque guarantee card, after several were bounced by the bank.

Peter Mullen, managing director of Thomas Pink, said yesterday: "We are hoping to find a resolution to the problem with Barclays in the very near future. I'd rather not say any more at the moment." The bank cheques and cards that triggered the dispute were stolen.

Barclays said: "We are working with Thomas Pink's to try to resolve the issue. There is a security procedure to follow when checking signatures on cheques and cards. If we feel the forgery is so blatant we will dispute with the retailer whether they have stock to the proper procedure. If it is a very good forgery we will honour the cheque. With Thomas Pink there were a couple of stolen cheques which we felt they should have spotted."

The dispute between Thomas Pink, which has 11 shops in London and one in Edinburgh, is not unique but it is unusual. NatWest said: "We would not rule out the possibility of bouncing a stolen cheque that had been handed to a retailer. But if it got to that stage, we would call on our handwriting expert who works within the bank's fraud department to see whether it could and should have been spotted at the time of the sale."

Midland Bank said: "When a cheque which has been presented, even though it has been reported lost or stolen, provided it appears that the signatures on the cheque and the card match, we will pay it."

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STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

Index fails to live up to its early promise

INVESTORS on the London stock market found themselves with some catching-up to do on their return from the extended Christmas break.

While they have been busy gorging themselves on turkey and seasonal pud, American investors have been tucking into both equities and bonds as the year draws to a close.

As a result, the London stock market was treated to an early, futures-inspired rally as bleary-eyed London brokers crawled into a half-deserted Square Mile.

But the low levels of turnover failed to reflect some of the gains seen first thing as the FT-SE 100 index jumped more than 26 points. Unfortunately, investors never looked like maintaining the early pace with prices drifting off before the index closed at 3,095.8, up 12.4 points. The number of shares traded by the close slumped to one of the lowest levels of the year with just 269 million changing hands.

The water and electricity utilities made some early headway as fund managers began the year-end task of squaring-up their books. The possibility of a wave of corporate activity in the new year also attracted a few buyers.

Among the water companies, **Anglian** rose 8p to 518p, **North West**, 14p to 552p, **Northumbrian**, 11p to 726p, **Severn Trent**, 7p to 540p, **Thames**, 9p to 492p, and **Yorkshire**, 16p to 523p.

The RECs had useful gains with **East Midland** up 19p at 838p, **Eastern**, 10p to 779p, **Manweb**, 15p to 855p, **Norweb**, 11p to 850p, **Seeboard**, 15p to 477p, **South West**, 9p to 874p, **South Wales**, 19p to 878p, **Southern**, 16p to 807p, and **Yorkshire**, 18p to 707p. Bid target **Northern Electric** rose 4p to £10.10, awaiting the next move by **Trafalgar House**, up 1p at 75p.

The selective institutional support enjoyed by the pharmaceutical sector in the run-up to Christmas was again in evidence. **Wellcome** led the way, touching 709p at one stage, cheered by the news that the group had received the go-ahead from the US Food and Drug Administration to market two of its treatments. Lamictal is used in the treatment of epilepsy, while Navlebine is to treat patients with advanced lung cancer. The shares later finished 2p easier at 703p.

Earlier this month **Glaxo**, down 9p at 664p, shares raced away on the news that the patent on Zantac, its best-selling anti-ulcer drug, had been extended after the Gatt agreement. The patent on one of the ingredients of Zantac is not now due to expire until July 1997. **SmithKline Beecham** marked time at 466p as did **Zeneca** at 882p.

Euro Disney stood out with a rise of 18p to 141p in thin trading after reporting that attendances at the theme park near Paris showed a significant rise on a year ago. Philippe Bourguignon, the chairman, said in a radio interview that in terms of admissions, the current quarter was higher than last year.

Pentos fell 2p to 14½p on news that the group had requested to have administrative receivers appointed to Athena, its ailing cards and and giftware division. The troubled retailer said decisive action had been needed to end Athena's cash drain on its resources. Bill McGrath, chief executive, said the rest of the group continued to trade as normal.

In October, he gave warning that pre-tax losses of £36 million would mark the low point in the group's fortunes. Some brokers last night were treating the news as positive. They pointed out that attempts to dispose of the business had ended in failure and this latest move would have the effect of drawing a line across the losses and ease the burden on the rest of the group.

Last night, Grant Thornton, the receiver, said it had received several approaches from companies expressing an interest in acquiring all the business, or at least parts of it.

Pictures in the newspapers over the Christmas holidays showed the sales off to an early start with high street stores packed with shoppers. Early indications point to a pick-up in consumer spending amid evidence that some retailers have had a strong run-up to Christmas. As a result there were gains for **Kingfisher**, 5p to 438p, **Marks and Spencer**, 3p to 398p, **Body Shop**, 9p to 191p, **Boots**, 9p to 506p, **Dixons**, 4p to 192p, **Hamleys**, 5p to 190p, and **W H Smith Group**, 8½p to 475½p.

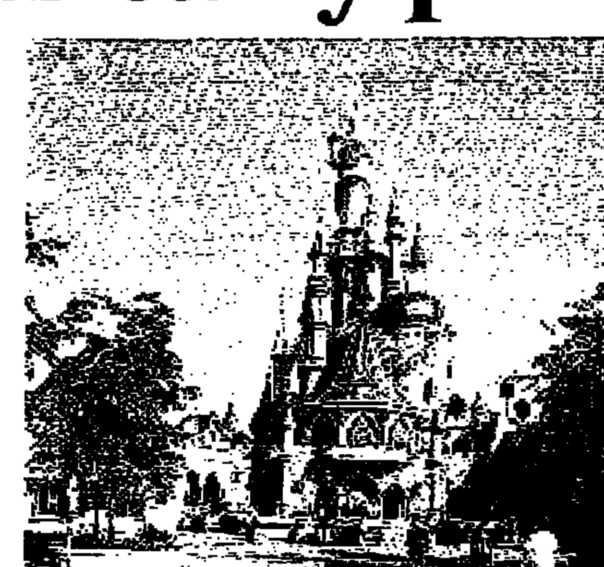
Goldsmiths Group, the jeweller, climbed 6p to 133p on a positive trading statement confidently predicting it will exceed current City profit forecasts in the year to January 31. Trading in the month before Christmas Eve saw total sales rise almost 19 per cent with like-for-like growth during the year up 12 per cent.

Beales Hunter, the electrical supplier, held steady at 244p on learning of the appointment of Anthony Hall as a non-executive director.

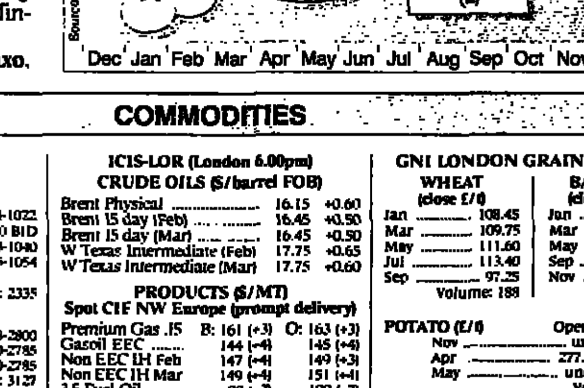
James Dickie, the engineer, which moved from the USM to a full listing last month slipped 3p to 185p. Hugh Jack has retired as chairman and will be replaced by Peter Bullock, a chartered engineer on the boards of the 600 Group and Syltone. More board appointments are promised.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Gilts enjoyed an early mark-up on the back of a firmer US Treasury market overnight in New York. London brokers said prices were squeezed higher in thin trading but closed below best after institutional support dried up. In the futures pit, the March series of the Long Gilt future finished £3/16 better in low turnover which saw a meagre 2,600 contracts completed. At the longer end of the conventional market, Treasury 9 per cent 2012 hardened £3/16 to £105 9/16, while in shorts, Treasury 9½ per cent 1999 was one tick ahead at £103 5/8.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Wall Street shares were lower at midday but Mexican and Latin American ADRs moved higher after their recent sell-off due to the weakness of the Mexican peso. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 19.85 points at 3,841.84.


Euro Disney shares rose on reports of higher admissions

It looks like being a prosperous new year for shareholders of Eclipse Blinds, the window blinds and accessories group. Their shares hit a low of 4½p in August but the price has rebounded from 9½p to 13p in the past month as the directors added to their holdings. Further share purchases may be on the cards.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	3841.84 (-19.85)
S&P Composite	460.48 (-1.99)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 19665.53 (-45.63)

Hong Kong: Hang Seng 8268.22 (-43.66)

Amsterdam: EOE Index 414.81 (-3.15)

Sydney: AO 1935.5 (+26.3)

Frankfurt: DAX 2109.01 (+2.86)

Singapore: Straits 2234.15 (+6.90)

Brussels: General 7270.27 (+14.59)

Paris: CAC-40 1927.83 (-28.15)

Zurich: SKA Gen 654.60 (-3.70)

London:

FT 30	2381.0 (+11.7)
FT 100	3095.8 (+12.4)
FT-SE Mid 250	3506.1 (+18.8)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1346.89 (-1.59)
FT A All-Share	1532.64 (+6.27)
FT Non Financials	1657.04 (+8.16)
FT Gold Mines	238.4 (+2.7)
FT Fixed Interest	109.84 (same)
FT Govt Secs	92.01 (+0.22)
Bargains	12414
SEAQ Volume	269.6m
USM (Datastrm)	149.23 (-0.19)
US$	1.5440 (-0.0025)
German Mark	2.4298 (-0.0106)
Exchange Index	79.5 (-0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.2772
£:SDR	n/a
RPI	145.3 Nov (2.6%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Asset Mngmnt Inv (100)	97	...
BSkyB	257½	...
British Assets Grth	64	+1
British Assets Wts	22	...
Clydeport	167	+1
Euclidian (100)	97	...
Fidelity Spc V Uts	470	...
Finsbry Smlr Cos C (100)	98	...
First Russ Fts ($10)	620	...
Fleming Nat Res (100)	92	...
For & Col Emrg C (100)	101½	-1
Gart Micro Index (500)	508	...
Hydro Intl (80)	83	...
INVESCO Korea C	95½	...
Innovative Techs (120)	123	...
Inv Cap Inc Anuity	127	...
Inv Cap Units	38	...
Kiln Capital (100)	100	...
Leg & Gen Recvry (100)	99	...
MICE Group (3)	3¼	...
Mthsn Llds Inv Tst (100)	85	-1
Murray Emrg Ec (100)	90½	-½
RAP Group	138	...
RM (175)	206	...
Residential Prop	101	...
SeaPerfect (120)	129	...
TeleWest Comm (182)	172½	+½
Wellington Under (100)	102	...
Woodchester Units	118	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Cowie n/p (190)	37	+3
Division Grp n/p (100)	17	...
Inspirations n/p (120)	16	...
MY n/p (53)	¼	...
OMI n/p (37)	2	...
Saltire n/p (12)	¼	...
Tomorrows Leis n/p (10)	½	...
Verity n/p (7½)	1	...
Walker Grnbnk n/p (90)	11	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Thomson Corp	765p (+10p)
De La Rue	949p (+15p)
Wace	242p (+9p)

FALLS:

Lloyds	558p (-8p)
Grand Central	57p (-9p)

Closing Prices Page 26

TEMPUS

How to cell-phones

MOBILE phone operators Cellnet, Vodafone and Orange could barely hide their glee at the public relations disaster over Mercury One-2-One's free-call promotion on Christmas day. Network bottlenecks meant that a thousand customers could not make international calls, forcing One-2-One, owned jointly by Mercury Communications and US West, to offer rebates to the loudest complainers.

However, One-2-One's rivals have little reason to look smug and their reaction conveniently ignores the cost of their own aggressive bids for market share. One-2-One's promotion was merely the highest profile campaign in a mad dash to put a mobile phone in every pocket and handbag.

A useful indicator of over-zealous expansion is the amount provided for bad debts by the companies. It refers to the value of unpaid customer bills and is one measure of the cost of speeding up growth in the market; a cost that is hurting all in the industry. Bad debts at Vodafone, the largest of the four mobile networks, will cost about £25 million in the current financial year, double last year's figure. Customers who do not pay their bills account for roughly half of the amount. Fraud, largely fictional subscribers, makes up the rest.

Bad debt is on the rise because the mobile phone companies, in their frantic drive to sign up customers, have become lax in their credit checks, offering phones to anyone who walks upright and can prove he has paid a gas bill.

The £5 million cost of One-2-One's Christmas promotion pales in comparison to the industry's bad debt charges, which are likely to grow as companies take further risks in the name of market share.

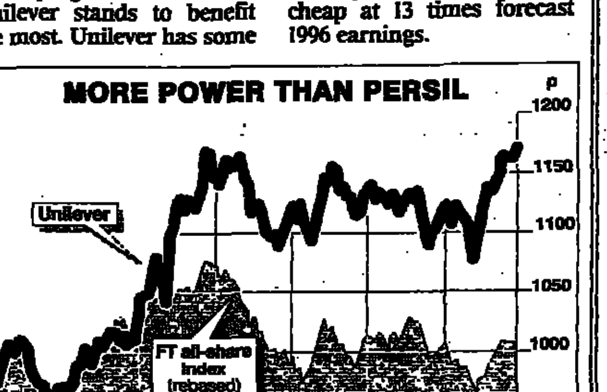
Unilever

UNILEVER scored such a magnificent own goal in the launch of its new product, Persil Power that the shares spent half the year buried in a pile of dirty football kit.

In the last two quarters, the market has come to appreciate that the soap wars relate to only a small part of Unilever. The huge sums invested to promote Persil Power were aimed at stemming the leak of customers to Procter & Gamble in markets already experiencing little or no growth. The percentage of Unilever sales involved in soap wars is in single figures, outweighed by the 20 per cent of the group's turnover outside Europe and North America.

Unilever has spent a net £550 million on acquisitions during 1994. Yesterday's deal in Spain is unlikely to make the company rich — frozen vegetables is a relatively low-margin business — but market leadership will boost Unilever's existing frozen veg business and complement its strong Spanish ice cream business.

Consumer demand in the developing world is where Unilever stands to benefit the most. Unilever has some two-thirds of the detergent market in Brazil and a powerful presence in India, boosted yesterday by a link between Brooke Bond and Kwality ice cream — the number one brand. Unilever should boost its profits by about 10 per cent next year, leaving the shares looking cheap at 13 times forecast 1996 earnings.



Retailing

THE interregnum between Christmas and New Year was once a fertile period for gossip about the high street feast or famine. The traditional leaks from leading store groups have now been replaced by January trading statements leaving less scope for speculation. Goldsmiths Group kicked off the season with an upbeat message which might persuade the credulous that all is well.

Like-for-like sales growth of 12 per cent would be enough to make the Kingfishers of this world slaver at the mouth. Goldsmiths did well selling its gold jewellery and Gucci watches but for a typical Goldsmiths' customer, spending several hundred pounds, the decision to spend an extra 10 per cent is unlikely to be critical. For most retailers, their customers incomes are not keeping pace with the growth in supply on the high street. Retailing space continues to grow and manufacturers are trying to pass on raw material price increases. Meanwhile the shopper is seeing more pressing demands on his wallet every month as the household bills continue to move upwards.

To add to these problems, warm weather has delayed purchases of winter woollens, and could hurt the margins of apparel retailers who are likely to be forced to cut prices to shift stock off shelves needed for spring fashions.

Margin pressure this holiday season is likely to be less than last year when retailers were forced to swallow some of the cost of the fall in sterling. But a year of warnings about tax increases and interest rate rises is not a diet on which to rear a spendthrift shopper.

The likely outturn for the sector is probably a 2-4 per cent increase in turnover for December. With static margins investors seeking exposure to high street recovery will fly to quality stocks like Marks and Spencer, Boots and GUS with the healthy balance sheets of the latter two offering the potential for special dividends.

But the sector still looks expensive: on forecasts from NatWest Markets general retailers are at a 14 per cent premium to the market as a whole on March 1996 earnings. Sometime this year sentiment on the high street ought to catch up with the economic growth forecasts bandied about in the City and trumpeted ad nauseam by the Government in the media. That is likely to coincide with the beginning of hopes for a tax-cutting Budget that will be seized by retailers grateful for any stimulus to trade in an environment hostile to price increases.

Retailers can thrive on inflation and next November's Budget, with an election in the offing, will test the Government's anti-inflation strategy and the long-term outlook for retailers.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Dec	990-974	Mar	1024-1022
Mar	986-985	May	1030 BID
May	983-981	Jul	1043-1040
Jul	992-990	Sep	1055-1054
Sep	1000 BID		
Dec	1010 BID		Volume: 2335

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	2820-2815	Sep	2818-2800
Mar	2850-2848	Nov	2790-2785
May	2838-2828	Jan	2790-2785
Jul	2825-2805		Volume: 3127

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	367.0-62.7
Spot: 416.40		Dec	358.5-54.2
Mar	414.0-12.5	Mar	354.5-51.0
May	408.5-06.7	May	353.9-49.0
Aug	396.9-94.2		Volume: 371

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on December 27

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	83.49	123.06	123.55
(+/-)	+0.86	+0.56	+1.62
Eng/Wales:	83.68	123.93	122.33
(+/-)	+0.80	+0.65	+2.60
(%)	-30.0	-9.0	+3.0
Scotland:	81.48	119.13	127.34
(+/-)	+1.73	-0.29	+0.94
(%)	-23.0	+4.0	-33.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	16.15	+0.60
Brent 15 day (Feb)	16.45	+0.50
Brent 15 day (Mar)	16.45	+0.50
W Texas Intermediate (Feb)	17.75	+0.65
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	17.75	+0.60

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 161 (+3)	O: 163 (+3)
Gasoil EEC	144 (+4)	145 (+4)
Non EEC IH Feb	147 (+4)	149 (+3)
Non EEC IH Mar	149 (+4)	151 (+4)
3.5 Fuel Oil	98 (-2)	100 (-2)
Naphtha	163 (+2)	165 (+2)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Jan	144.50-44.75	Apr	unq
Feb	147.00-47.25	May	150.75-51.00
Mar	149.25-49.50		Vol: 15290

BRENT (6.00pm)

Feb	16.43-16.44	May	16.47-16.50
Mar	16.44-16.46	Jun	16.48-16.54
Apr	16.46-16.48		Vol: 19990

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jan	108.45	Jan	103.75
Mar	109.75	Mar	105.75
May	111.60	May	107.75
Jul	113.40	Sep	95.75
Sep	97.25	Nov	97.50
Volume: 188		Volume: 84	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Nov	unq	unq
Apr	277.1	277.5
May	unq	305.5
		Volume: 78

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Feb 100.75-101.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jan 95	2020	2005	2010
Feb 95	2011	2011	2005
Mar 95	1990	1980	1990
Apr 95	1905	1900	1909
Vol: 96 lots		Open interest: 3283	

Index 1972 -4

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2995.0-2996.0	2974.0-2975.0	1052050
Lead ($/tonne)	641.00-642.00	660.00-661.00	81350
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1117.5-1118.0	1143.5-1144.0	182200
Tin ($/tonne)	5870.0-5880.0	5970.0-5975.0	12000
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1920.0-1920.5	1950.5-1951.0	424175
Nickel ($/tonne)	8560.0-8570.0	8735.0-8740.0	52674

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100 (Previous open interest: 58703)	Mar 95	3130.0	3143.0	3117.0	3118.0	5105
	Jun 95				3130.0	0
FT-SE 250 (Previous open interest: 3925)	Mar 95				3520.0	0
	Jun 95					0
Three Month Sterling (Previous open interest: 395701)	Mar 95	92.71	92.71	92.66	92.66	5528
	Jun 95	92.00	92.00	91.97	91.97	862
	Sep 95	91.52	91.52	91.49	91.48	708
Three Mth Eurodollar (Previous open interest: 2076)	Mar 95				92.82	0
	Jun 95				92.07	0
Three Mth Euro DM (Previous open interest: 668469)	Mar 95	94.48	94.49	94.45	94.45	5330
	Jun 95	94.10	94.12	94.08	94.09	1643
Long Gilt (Previous open interest: 120007)	Dec 94	103-12	103-12	103-10	103-09	240
	Mar 95	103-15	102-24	102-13	102-14	3990
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 95	108.77	108.77	108.60	108.63	1256
	Jun 95				107.940	
German Gov Bd Bund (Previous open interest: 169061)	Mar 95	89.98	90.07	89.75	89.75	22811
	Jun 95	89.28	89.25	89.25	89.23	144
Three month ECU (Previous open interest: 19682)	Mar 95	93.34	93.35	93.27	93.27	423
	Jun 95	92.95	92.95	92.87	92.87	215
Euro Swiss Franc (Previous open interest: 33358)	Mar 95	95.43	95.51	95.43	95.51	686
	Jun 95	95.15	95.21	95.15	95.22	100
Italian Govmt Bond (Previous open interest: 43975)	Mar 95	100.05	100.30	99.71	99.76	7805
	Jun 95				99.06	0

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¼ Finance Hse 6¾
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5 Low 4 Week fixed: 5½
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6 ; 3 mth 6⅛. Sell: 2 mth 5⅞ ; 3 mth: 6 .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5 15/16-5 13/16	6⅛-5 15/16	6¼-6⅛	6 11/16-6 9/16	
Sterling Money Rates:	6⅛-5 15/16	6¼-6⅛	6½-6⅜	7⅛-7	7 9/16-7 7/16
Interbank:	6⅛-5 15/16	6¼-6⅛	6½-6⅜	7⅛-7	7 9/16-7 7/16

Overnight: open 5 . close 4 .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	6	n/a	6⅜	7	7½
Sterling CDs:	5 15/16-5¾	6⅛-6 1/16	6⅜-6¼	6 15/16-6 13/16	7½-7 7/16
Dollar CDs:	6.09-6.06	n/a	6.33-6.30	6.90-6.87	7.57-7.54
Building Society CDs:	6-5 15/16	6⅛-6⅛	6⅜-6¼	7-6 15/16	7½-7 7/16

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Nov 30, 1994 Agreed rates Dec 26, 1994 to Jan 24, 1995 Scheme III: 7.39 %. Reference rate Nov 1, 1994 to Nov 30, 1994 Scheme IV & V: 6.107 %.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5¼-4⅞	6 1/16-5 15/16	6⅛-6¼	6 11/16-6 9/16	6¼-6
Deutschemark:	5⅛-5	5¼-5 3/16	5⅜-5¼	5⅝-5½	5¼-4¾
French Franc:	5⅝-5½	5 11/16-5⅝	6⅛-6	6⅜-6¼	5⅝-4¾
Swiss Franc:	4½-4¼	4⅛-3⅞	4⅛-4¼	4⅜-4¼	4½-3¾
Yen:	2⅛-2	2 3/16-2⅛	2¼-2⅛	2⅜-2¼	2⅛-1½

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $381.80-382.30 Close: $381.80-382.20 High: $382.10-382.50
Low: $381.50-381.90 AM: $381.80 PM: $381.75

Krugerrand: $n/a (£n/a)

Platinum: $417.25 (£270.05) Silver: $4.81 (£3.115) Palladium: $156.10 (£101.05)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Dec 28	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.7156-2.7315	2.7156-2.7190	¼-⅛pr	¾-⅝pr
Brussels	49.79-50.17	49.79-49.89	5-1pr	16-11pr
Copenhagen	9.5140-9.5730	9.5140-9.5290	⅛pr-⅛ds	¼-⅛pr
Dublin	1.0087-1.0142	1.0101-1.0128	2pr-par	1-6ds
Frankfurt	2.4240-2.4397	2.4240-2.4272	¼-⅛pr	¾-⅝pr
Lisbon	248.96-250.79	248.96-249.59	88-100ds	239-262ds
Madrid	205.23-206.52	205.23-205.53	30-42ds	99-118ds
Milan	2534.50-2544.60	2534.50-2537.80	5-7ds	14-16ds
Montreal	2.1635-2.1720	2.1642-2.1672	0.05-0.03pr	0.01-0.14ds
New York	1.5430-1.5472	1.5430-1.5440	par-0.02pr	0.01pr-0.01ds
Oslo	10.5810-10.6490	10.5810-10.5970	¼-½ds	1½-½pr
Paris	8.3750-8.4250	8.3750-8.3890	¼pr-par	¾-½pr
Stockholm	11.5720-11.6320	11.5720-11.5960	1¼-2¼ds	3½-5¼ds
Tokyo	154.72-155.42	154.74-155.01	¾-⅝pr	1¾-1½pr
Vienna	17.09-17.18	17.09-17.13	1¼-½pr	6-4½pr
Zurich	2.0478-2.0625	2.0478-2.0508	¾-⅝pr	1½-1¼pr

Source: Ertel. Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2853-1.2861
Austria	11.07-11.08
Belgium (Com)	32.35-32.37
Canada	1.4032-1.4037
Denmark	6.1780-6.1810
France	5.4390-5.4410
Germany	1.5743-1.5754
Hong Kong	7.7390-7.7400
Ireland	1.5275-1.5290
Italy	1644.00-1645.00
Japan	100.33-100.40
Malaysia	2.5628-2.5635
Netherlands	1.7640-1.7650
Norway	6.8715-6.8745
Portugal	161.78-161.88
Singapore	1.4643-1.4650
Spain	133.24-133.34
Sweden	7.4976-7.5076
Switzerland	1.3302-1.3312

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5417-1.5443
Australia dollar	1.9856-1.9878
Bahrain dinar	0.576-0.588
Brazil real*	1.3130-1.3150
Cyprus pound	0.74-0.75
Finland markka	7.345-7.461
Greece drachma	373.25-380.25
Hong Kong dollar	0.4643-0.4647
India rupee	48.03-48.99
Kuwait dinar KD	0.459-0.469
Malaysia ringgit	3.9588-3.9611
Mexico peso	n/a
New Zealand dollar	2.4030-2.4046
Pakistan rupee	47.00 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.7325-5.8588
Singapore dollar	2.2619-2.2637
S Africa rand (fin)	6.2930-6.3281
S Africa rand (com)	5.4966-5.5033
U A E dirham	5.610-5.734

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	174	Legal & Gn	211
ASDA Gp	5,800	Lloyds Bk	3,000
Abbey Natl	1,400	MEPC	802
Alld Dom	959	Marks Spr	1,100
Argyll Gp	2,400	NatWst Bk	2,500
Arjo Wiggn	187	Nat Power	901
AB Foods	192	Nth Wst W	954
BAA	1,400	P & O	357
BAT Inds	1,300	Pearson	567
BOC	1,100	PowerGen	668
BP	4,700	Prudential	2,500
BTR	3,600	RMC	268
BT	3,200	RTZ	914
Bk of Scot	699	Rank Org	2,000
Barclays	1,900	Reckitt Col	422
Bass	865	Redland	827
Blue Circle	602	Reed Intl	212
Boots	1,400	Rentokil	450
Bowater	446	Reuters	921
Brit Aero	401	Rolls Royce	1,200
Brit Airwys	903	Ryl Ins	753
Brit Gas	6,800	Ryl Bk Scot	2,200
Brit Steel	1,800	Sainsbury	1,000
Burmah Cstl	299	Schroders	119
Cable Wire	3,100	Scot & New	765
Cadbury	793	Scot Power	1,600
Caradon	888	Sears	1,600
Carlton Cms	292	Svrn Trent	402
Cm Union	115	Shell Trans	1,700
Courtaulds	635	Siebe	174
De La Rue	575	SmKl Bch	1,100
Eastern Elec	668	Smith Nph	984
Enterpr Oil	161	Sthern Elec	681
Forte	16	Std Chartd	799
GKN	828	Sun Allnce	1,400
GRE	1,000	TI Gp	273
GUS	268	TSB	1,500
Gen Acc	930	Tesco	874
Gen Elec	1,500	Thames W	430
Glaxo	1,900	Thrn EMI	1,000
Granada	273	Tomkins	1,700
Grand Met	1,700	Unilever	572
Guinness	895	Utd Bisc	1,100
HSBC	492	Vodafone	1,900
Hanson	5,300	Warburg (SG)	688
ICI	934	Wellcome	1,000
Inchcape	310	Whitbread	521
Kingfisher	431	Wlms Hld	727
Ladbroke	3,500	Wolseley	125
Land Secs	302	Zeneca	873

WALL STREET

	Dec 28 midday	Dec 27 close
AMP Inc	72½	72¼
AMR Corp	52⅝	52⅝
AT & T	51⅛	51½
Abbott Labs	32⅝	33⅛
Advanced Micro	24⅛	24
Aetna Life	47⅜	47⅜
Ahmanson (HF)	16⅛	16⅛
Air Prod & Chem	44⅝	44⅛
Albertson's	29¼	29⅛
Alcan Alumnm	25¼	25¼
Alco Standard	63⅛	63⅛
Allied Signal	34⅛	35⅛
Alum Co of Am	85⅝	85¼
Amax Gold Inc	5⅞	5⅞
Amerada Hess	45	45¼
Amer Brands	37⅛	37½
Amer El Power	33	33
Amer Express	29⅜	29⅜
Amer Genl Corp	28⅛	28¼
Amer Home Pr	63⅝	64
Amer Intl	99⅝	99⅜
Amer Stores	26¼	26¼
Ameritech	41¼	41½
Amoco	58⅝	58¼
Anheuser-Busch	51⅛	51¼
Apple Computer	38 13/16	39¼
Archer Daniels	20⅞	20⅞
Armco	6¼	6½
Armstrng Wrld	38½	39¼
Asarco	28⅞	29⅛
Ashland Oil	34¼	34¼
Atl Richfield	102⅛	103
Auto Data Pro	59⅝	59⅝
Avery Dennison	35⅜	35¼
Avon Products	60½	60⅜
Baker Hughes	18⅛	18⅛
Baltim Gas & El	22⅛	22¼
Banc One	25½	25⅜
BankAmerica	39⅝	40⅜
Bank of NY	29⅞	30⅛
Bankers Tr NY	57	57¼
Barnett Banks	39	38¼
Bausch & Lomb	33½	34¼
Baxter Intl	27¼	27¼
Bectn Dicknsn	49⅜	49⅜
Bell Atlantic	51	51
BellSouth	54¼	54⅛
Black & Decker	24⅛	24½
Block (H&R)	37⅝	37¼
Boeing	47⅜	47½
Boise Cascade	26½	26⅞
Borden Inc	12⅞	12⅞
Bristol Myrs Sq	59½	59⅜
Browning Ferris	28⅞	28⅞
Brunswick	18⅛	18¼
Burlingtn Nthn	48⅛	48⅜
CBS	53½	53½
CNA Financial	66¼	66⅜
CPC Intl	52⅝	53
CSX	69	69
Campbell Soup	44⅛	44⅛
Can Pacific	15⅛	15⅛
Cptl Cities ABC	85⅛	85¼
Carolina Pwr	26⅛	26⅛
Caterpillar	54¼	55⅜
Central & SW	22⅛	22⅜
Champion Intl	36⅞	36⅞
Chase Manhat	34½	34⅛
Chemical Bk	36⅛	36¼
Chevron Corp	44½	45
Chrysler	49	49⅛
Chubb Corp	77⅛	77
Cigna Corp	62⅞	62⅛
Citicorp	40⅜	40⅜
Clorox	58½	59⅜
Coastal Corp	25⅞	25⅛
Coca Cola	52⅛	52⅛
Colgate-Palmolive	62⅞	63
Columbia Gas	24	24⅛
Compaq Comp	39⅞	39⅛
Comp Ass Int	48	48⅛
Conagra	31¼	31¼
Cons Edison	25⅞	25⅞
Cons Nat Gas	35⅛	35⅛
Cons Rail	48⅛	49⅜
Cooper Inds	34	34½
Corning Inc	30⅛	30⅛
Crown Cork	38⅞	38⅞
Dana Corp	23⅞	24
Dayton Hudson	67⅜	68⅜
Deere	65⅛	66
Delta Air Lines	50⅛	50⅞
Deluxe Corp	26½	26⅛
Detroit Edison	26⅛	26⅛
Digital Equip	34⅛	34⅛
Dillard Dept St	26	26⅛
Disney (Walt)	46⅛	46⅛
Dominion Res	36⅛	36⅞
Donelley (RR)	29⅛	29⅛
Dover Corp	52⅛	52⅞
Dow Chemical	67⅜	68
Dow Jones	30⅛	31
Dresser	19⅞	19⅛
Duke Power	38⅛	38⅛
Dun & Brdstreet	54¼	54⅜
Du Pont	56⅛	56
Eastman Kodak	47⅜	47⅜
Eaton Corp	49⅜	49⅜
Emerson Elec	62¼	62⅛
Engelhard Corp	22	22

	Dec 28 midday	Dec 27 close
Enron Corp	30	29⅞
Entergy	21½	21⅛
Ethyl Corp	9⅝	9⅝
Exxon	61⅛	61⅛
FMC Corp	57⅛	58
FPL Group	35	35⅜
Federal Express	59⅝	59⅜
Fed Nat Mtge	72¼	72⅛
First Chicago	47⅝	47½
First Interstate	67½	68⅜
First Union Rlty	6¼	6⅛
Fleet Fin Grp	31¼	32⅛
Fluor Corp	44⅛	45
Ford Motor	27⅜	27⅜
GTE Corp	30⅛	30½
Gannett	53½	53¼
Gap Inc Del	29⅞	29⅜
Gen Dynamics	43⅞	43⅛
Gen Electric	51⅛	51¼
Gen Mills	57⅜	57⅛
Gen Motors	41⅛	41⅛
Gen Reinsurance	126⅛	127⅜
Gen Signal	32	32⅛
Genuine Parts	36⅜	36½
Georgia Pac	72⅛	73
Gillette	76	76
Glaxo ADR	20⅛	20⅛
Goodrich (BF)	44⅛	44⅛
Goodyear Tire	33½	33⅜
Grace (W&R)	39	39⅛
Grt Atl Pac Tea	18⅛	18⅜
Great Wstn Fin	16⅛	16⅛
Halliburton	33⅞	34⅛
Harcourt General	35⅛	35⅛
Heinz (HJ)	36⅛	37⅛
Hercules	113⅛	114⅛
Hershey Foods	48⅝	49
Hewlett Packard	100⅛	100⅜
Hilton Hotels	67½	67¼
Home Depot	46⅛	46⅛
Homestake Mng	17⅛	16½
Honeywell	30⅛	29⅞
Household Intl	36⅛	36⅛
Houston Inds	35⅛	35⅛
Humana	22½	23
ITT Corp	86⅛	88⅜
Illinois Tool	42½	43⅛
Illinova	21⅛	21⅛
INCO	29	29⅜
Ingersoll Rand	31¼	32⅛
Inland Steel	34½	35
Intel Corp	62⅞	63 13/16
IBM	73⅞	74⅛
Intl Flav & Fr	46¼	46⅜
Intl Paper	75⅜	76⅛
James River Va	20⅜	20⅜
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	55½	55½
Kellogg	58⅞	59
Kerr-McGee	46⅛	46⅛
Kimberly-Clark	51	51¼
Kmart	12¼	12⅜
Knight-Ridder	50⅞	50⅜
Lilly (Eli)	65½	65⅛
Limited Inc	17⅜	18¼
LIN Brdcstng	146⅛	145⅛
Lincoln Nat	35⅜	35⅛
Litton	37⅛	37⅛
Liz Claiborne	15½	15⅛
Lockheed	71⅛	72⅜
Louisiana Pac	27¼	28½
MCI Comm	17 13/16	18⅛
Marriott Int	27⅜	27⅛
Marsh & McLnn	79⅜	79⅜
Masco Corp	23⅛	23⅜
May Dept St	33⅛	33⅞
Maytag Corp	15	15
McDonalds	29⅜	29⅛
McDonnell D	142⅞	143¼
McGraw Hill	67	67¼
Mead Corp	49⅜	49½
Medtronic	55⅜	55⅛
Mellon Bk	30¼	30⅜
Melville Corp	30⅜	30⅜
Merck Inc	39½	39⅛
Merrill Lynch	36¼	36½
Minnesota Mine	53	53⅛
Mobil Corp	85¼	85⅛
Monsanto	60	69⅛
Morgan (JP)	55⅜	55⅜
Motorola Inc	58⅛	58½
Natl Medical	14½	14
Natl Semi	19⅜	19⅜
Natl Service Ind	25⅜	25⅛
Navistar Int	15½	15¼
NBD Bancorp	28½	28⅛
NY Times A	21½	21½
Newmont Mng	34¼	34⅛
Niag Mohawk	13¼	13⅞
Nike B	74⅛	76¼
NL Industries	12½	12⅛
Noram Energy	5½	5⅛
Nordstrom	41 13/16	40⅞
Norfolk Sthrn	59⅜	59⅞
Nthn State Pwr	45⅛	45⅛
Norwest Corp	23⅛	23
Nynex Corp	37½	37⅜
Occidental Pet	19⅛	19⅛
Ohio Edison	19	19⅛
Oracle Systems	44⅛	45
Oryx Energy Co	11⅛	11⅛

	Dec 28 midday	Dec 27 close
Owens Corning	30⅛	30⅛
PNC Financial	21⅞	22
PPG Industries	38	38½
Paccar Inc	43¼	44½
Pacificorp	18¼	18⅜
Pac Enterprises	20⅛	20⅜
Pac Gas & Elect	24⅞	24¼
Pac Telesis	29	29⅜
Pall Corp	19	19
Panhandle East	19¼	19⅜
Parker Hannifin	45⅞	45⅞
Peco Energy	24⅛	24¼
Penney (JC)	42⅜	42⅜
Pennzoil	43½	43½
Pepsico	36½	36⅜
Pfizer	77⅛	77⅛
Phelps Dodge	61⅛	61⅛
Philip Morris	57	56⅝
Phillips Pet	33⅛	33⅛
Pitney Bowes	31⅛	32⅛
Polaroid	32⅜	32⅜
PriceCostco	12⅞	12⅜
Procter & Gmbl	62½	63⅛
Providian	31½	31¼
Pub Serv E & G	26½	27
Quaker Oats	30⅛	30⅜
Ralston Purina	44¼	44¼
Raychem Corp	36	35⅛
Raytheon	63⅝	63⅛
Reebok Intl	39⅜	40
Reynolds Metals	49⅛	49⅜
Roadway Srvcs	56	57
Rockwell Intl	35⅜	35⅛
Rohm & Haas	57⅛	57⅛
Royal Dutch	107⅜	108⅛
Rubbermaid	28⅛	28⅜
Safeco Corp	51 13/16	52
St Paul's Cos	44⅜	44⅜
Salomon Inc	37¼	37⅛
Santa Fe Pac	17½	17⅝
Sara Lee Corp	25⅜	25⅜
Stecorp	15¼	15¼
Schering Plough	74¼	74⅜
Schlumberger	51⅛	50⅜
Scott Paper	69⅜	69⅜
Seagram	30	30⅛
Sears Roebuck	45⅛	45⅜
Shell Trans	65	64⅛
Sherwin Wlms	33	33⅛
Skyline Corp	17⅛	17⅛
Snap-On-Tools	33⅛	33⅛
Southern Co	20⅜	20½
Sthwestern Bell	41⅛	41⅛
Sprint Corp	27⅜	26⅞
Stanley Works	37⅛	37⅜
Sun Company	28⅞	28⅛
Sun Microsys	36¼	36⅞
Suntrust	48⅜	49⅜
Supervalu	25	25⅛
Sysco Corp	25¼	26⅛
TRW Inc	65¼	65½
TCC Inds	2⅛	2⅛
Tandem Comp	17	17
Tandy Corp	50⅛	50
Teledyne	20⅛	20⅛
Temple Inland	46¼	45⅜
Tenneco	42½	42⅛
Texaco	60⅜	61
Texas Inst	75⅜	76⅛
Texas Utilities	32	32⅛
Textron	50½	50⅜
Time Warner	34⅛	34⅛
Times-Mirror	30½	31⅛
Timken	35⅛	35⅛
Torchmark	35⅛	35⅛
Toys R Us	30⅛	33⅛
Transamerica	50¼	50
Travelers	33⅛	33⅛
Tribune	54⅛	54½
Tyco Labs	48	47⅜
UST Inc	27⅛	27⅛
UAL	88	89⅛
USX Marathon	16⅛	16½
Unicom	24	24
Unilever NV	116⅛	117⅛
Union Camp	48⅜	48⅛
Union Carbide	29⅞	30
Union Pacific	47⅛	46⅜
Unisys Corp	8⅜	8⅛
USAIR Group	4	4½
USF&G Corp	13⅜	13⅜
US Life	34⅛	34⅛
US West	35⅜	36
United Tech	62⅞	63⅛
Unocal Corp	26⅛	26⅜
Upjohn	30½	31⅛
VF Corp	48⅜	48⅛
WMX Tech	26½	26⅜
Wal-Mart Stores	21⅛	21⅛
Warner-Lambert	78⅛	78⅛
Wells Fargo	145⅜	146⅛
Westinghouse El	12⅛	12⅛
Weyerhaeuser	38⅛	38⅜
Whirlpool	51⅛	51⅛
Whitman	16⅛	16⅛
Winn Dixie	52⅞	52⅞
Woolworth	14⅞	15
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	48⅛	48⅛
Xerox	98⅛	100⅛
Yellow Corp	23⅛	23⅛

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Alld Dom.	500	46	59	67½	0	5½	11
(*544)	550	7½	26	37	12½	22	30
Argyll	260	11½	21	26½	4	7½	14
(*267)	280	2½	11	16	15	18	25
ASDA	60	7	8½	11	0½	2	3½
(*66½)	70	1½	3½	5	5	7	8
Boots	500	12	31	38½	7	16	23½
(*506)	550	0	10½	17	44	47	54
Br Airways	360	10½	25	32½	8	16½	26
(*361)	390	1½	12½	19½	29½	34½	44
BP	420	16½	28	37½	4½	12½	19½
(*431)	460	1½	10	18½	29½	35½	41½
Br Steel	140	17	21½	25	0	2½	4½
(*156½)	160	3	9½	13	6	10	12½
C & W	360	32	46	53	1	9½	15
(*389½)	390	10½	27½	36	0½	21	27½
CU	493	24	38½	—	2	18	—
(*517½)	543	3½	14½	—	27	47½	—
ICI	750	23½	41½	56	8½	32½	40
(*763)	800	3½	18½	33½	39	62½	69½
Kingfshr	420	23½	38½	44	3½	13½	22
(*437½)	460	4	17½	24½	25	34	44
Land Sec	600	13	28½	36½	7½	17½	29
(*602)	650	1	9½	15½	48	50	61½
M & S	390	12½	25	33	4	10½	16
(*398)	430	3	11	18½	22½	26½	33
Nat West	500	25	38	49	5	23½	28½
(*518)	550	3½	15½	27½	33½	53½	57½
Sainsbury	390	24½	38½	45½	1½	9	17
(*411½)	420	6½	21	29	13	23½	31½
Shell	700	14½	37½	38	7½	26	38½
(*703½)	750	1	9	18	46½	60½	61½
Smkl Bch	460	15	30	38½	7½	20½	27
(*466)	500	2	13	21½	35	44	50
Storehse	300	19½	25½	29½	0½	3½	6½
(*318½)	330	5	12½	17½	6	11½	15
Trafalgar	70	6	10	13	1	3½	5
(*75)	80	1	5	8	6	9	10½
Unilever	1150	31	58	74	10	35½	47½
(*1166)	1200	8	34	50	38	63½	75
Zeneca	850	40½	58	72	5½	25½	34½
(*882)	900	11½	31	46	27	51	60

Series		Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
Grnd Met.	390	25	35	42	8½	14	20
(*412)	420	8	20	27	24½	29½	35
Ladbroke	160	15½	19½	24½	3	8½	9½
(*171½)	180	4½	9	15	12	19	20
Utd Bisc	330	12½	18	25	10	21½	34½
(*330)	360	3	7	14	31	42	44½

December 28, 1994 Tot: 16485 Call: 9249 Put: 7236 FT-SE Call: 4733 Put: 1222

*Underlying security price.

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
BAA	450	27½	40	—	1	8½	—
(*474½)	475	10½	24	—	8½	18½	—
Thames W	460	34½	48½	57	1	8	17
(*491½)	500	8	24½	34	14½	24	36½

Series		Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
BAT Ind	420	31	41	44	5½	17	25
(*441½)	460	9½	20	25	24	39	47
BTR	280	24	28	34	3	10	13
(*297½)	300	11	16½	23	10	19½	22½
Br Aero	400	36½	48½	—	7½	20	—
(*433½)	448	15½	29½	—	25½	40	—
Br Telcm	360	30	40	46½	2½	5½	11
(*385)	390	10½	21½	28½	12½	17	24½
Cadbury	420	22½	29½	37½	5½	17	19½
(*432)	460	6	12	19½	29	42	43½
Guinness	430	40	47	52	1½	8	11
(*454½)	460	12½	21½	28½	13½	24½	28
GEC	260	20½	27½	31½	2	4½	8½
(*276)	280	7½	15½	19½	9	12	18
Hanson	220	18	21	24	1½	5½	8½
(*234½)	240	5½	10	13½	9½	14½	18½
LASMO	140	9	13½	17	4	8	8½
(*144)	160	1½	5½	8½	17	19½	20
Lucas	200	12½	18½	25	5½	10½	13½
(*205½)	220	4	9½	15½	17	22	24½
Pilkngtn	160	9½	14½	18½	4	6	9½
(*164)	180	2	6	9½	17	18	20½
Prudential	300	27½	31½	36	3½	11	13½
(*321½)	330	9½	14½	20½	15½	26½	29
Redland	460	25	35½	41½	10	26	31½
(*470½)	500	7½	18	23½	33	52	56
R-Royce	180	7½	13	17	6½	12	14½
(*180)	200	1½	5½	9½	20½	25½	27
Tesco	240	13	19	23	4	11	14
(*248)	260	3½	11	13½	14	22	25
Vodafone	200	16	22½	26½	3	7	10
(*211)	217	6½	—	—	10½	—	—
Williams	300	34½	31½	34½	3	10	11
(*321)	330	7	14½	19	15	25	26

FT-SE INDEX (*3098)

	2950	3000	3050	3100	3150	3200
Calls						
Jan	165	122	82½	49½	25½	12
Feb	193½	156½	120	90½	64	43
Mar	212	174½	141	109	84	62½
Apr	221	184½	156	127	103½	82½
Jun	—	217½	—	157½	—	112
Puts						
Jan	8½	13	25	44½	71	110½
Feb	26½	39½	53½	73½	99	129½
Mar	45	58½	75½	94	119	147½
Apr	55½	69½	89	110	137	173½
Jun	—	93	—	133½	—	188

Series		Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Abby Nat.	420	26½	33	39	14½	20½	26
(*433½)	460	7½	14½	21½	40	44½	49
Amstrad	125	14	18	—	4	7	—
(*134)	150	3	7½	—	19	21	—
Barclays	600	39	49½	59	19½	30	37½
(*616½)	650	15½	27	36½	49½	58	65
Blue Circ	280	25	30½	35½	7	15	19
(*294½)	300	14	20	26	16	25	29
Br Gas	300	24½	30	33	5	11	14
(*315½)	330	8½	14	18½	19½	26½	30
Dixons	180	17½	21½	23½	5½	7½	10½
(*191½)	200	8	11	14	15½	17½	21
Forte	240	13½	19	23	8½	15	16½
(*243½)	260	5	10	14½	20	26½	28
Hillsdwn	160	22½	25½	26½	1	4	6½
(*179½)	180	8	13	14½	7	14½	16
Lonrho	140	14½	20	22½	3½	6½	9
(*151½)	160	4½	10½	13	13½	17	19½
Sears	110	6½	9	9	6	8	8
(*110)	120	3	5	5	12	14½	14½
Thrn EMI	1000	59½	85	94½	15½	24	38
(*1031½)	1050	30½	55½	65½	37	45½	62
Tomkins	220	13½	21	23½	7	11½	16
(*226)	240	5	12	14	19	22½	27
TSB	220	21½	25	29½	6½	9½	13
(*236)	240	10	14½	19½	16½	19½	23
Wellcome	700	42½	59	72½	37½	48	57½
(*702½)	750	21½	39½	52	68	78	87

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Glaxo	650	26	44½	61½	10½	32½	40½
(*664)	700	5½	22	39½	40	60½	68½
HSBC	700	33	54½	68½	8½	36	45
(*721)	750	9	29½	45½	34½	65	73½
Reuter	460	22	35	46	3½	18½	23½
(*475½)	500	4½	16½	27½	26	38	44½

Series		Calls Feb	May	Jul	Puts Feb	May	Jul
Royal Ins	260	25½	30	36	3½	11	13
(*279½)	280	13	19	24½	11	20½	22½

Series		Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Fisons	110	10½	13½	17	7½	11	12½
(*110)	120	6½	10	12½	14	17	18½

Series		Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
Eastern Gp	750	43½	66	79	17	32	46
(*778½)	800	18	41	54½	43½	57½	72

Series		Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Natl Pwr	460	51	62	67	5	13½	18
(*499)	500	24½	37	44	18	29½	35
Scot Pwr	330	30½	41	46	9	14½	21½
(*353)	360	14	25½	30½	22½	28½	36½

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

An altogether bland affair

Nuisance fall

Body and brain



هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الاصل

THE TIMES

CITY DIARY

An altogether bland affair

LOYAL employee shareholders of NFC will get their first taste of life under their new chairman at the transport group's annual meeting on January 28. Last year's jamboree at Wembley was accompanied by lashings of food and drink and subsidised travel to the meeting, but Sir Christopher Bland is clearly not in the mood to celebrate his appointment to the top job. The AGM budget, of about £250,000, has been cut and the party is being held in more sober premises in Harrogate, without video screens. "The frills will be gone," said a spokesman for NFC. "There will be no refreshments, to start with"...Any wagers on how many shareholders will now bother to turn up?

Nuisance fall

THE dummy questions some City switchboards get asked! Vera, who prefers to keep her number a secret, had to deal with the following: "What time do they turn off the Niagara Falls?". She replied: "7pm during the week, and 8pm at the weekends." The supplementary question was: "What! every day?" "Yes," she said, and pulled the plug.

Body and brain

AUDITORS at Coopers & Lybrand are good at their figures. How do I know? Because Ruth Leung, who works in Coopers' Brisbane office, recently made it to the final of the Miss Universe Australia contest. "I believe that working in a large professional services firm such as Coopers & Lybrand gave me an upper hand in reaching the finals because the judges were looking for people who were able to apply their brains, carry on an intelligent conversation and also present themselves well," Ruth says. Three UK audit groups have expressed interest should Ruth wish to join the UK firm.



"He calls it a fall in confidence — I call it a hangover"

Now you see it

OUR call (City Diary, December 22) to help find a new name for British Invisibles, because the organisation has had great difficulties in explaining itself properly to foreigners, has met with a wide response. PR group Ludgate Pollen offers: Export Services, Inconspicuous Earnings, Spiritual Earnings, Transparent Earnings, Obscure Services. From a reader in Surrey comes: Abstract Assets, Multi Asset Exports, and Export Resources International. Or how about "UK Commercials"?

Clare vision?

IS Clare Spottiswoode's Ofgas, the gas industry watchdog, about to be taken over by Ernst & Young, the accountancy firm? Or is the regulator about to be put into receivership? What else am I to deduce from Ofgas' Christmas card, which announces a series of new telephone numbers which, when dialled, connects you with E&Y?

COLIN CAMPBELL

The theory is right, but will Clarke's jobs package work?

Douglas McWilliams and Mark Pragnell look at the rationale behind the Budget centrepiece



Long-term unemployed are becoming a greater proportion of the UK jobless

With a week proving to be a long time in politics, it is becoming difficult to remember that the centrepiece of the 1994 Budget was a package of 12 separate measures to reduce unemployment.

Normally when a series of measures are packaged together like this it reflects either an attempt in Whitehall to give measures of individual unimportance sufficient scale to merit a headline or an inability to decide between competing claims for funding ending in a messy compromise to share the money out.

But this package is different. In the past ten years, research into the causes of persistently high unemployment in the UK and elsewhere in Europe has come up with useful information about the causes. What is impressive about the Budget package is how closely it reflects the results of this research.

There is considerable agreement about the factors destroying jobs in Europe. From a theoretical point of view, jobs are lost when the return to an employer from employing someone falls below that person's total costs of employment. And while the costs of employment in Europe have risen gradually but persistently, the return to employers from employing people has in many cases been reduced by the increasing ability to use cheaper labour-saving technology or labour from other economies with low costs.

The OECD estimates that in the major Western economies 10 to 15 per cent of all jobs are destroyed each year. But in most years this is more than offset by the jobs created. The annual change in the total number employed in Europe as a whole has ranged from minus 1.9 per cent to plus 1.6 per cent, implying that job creation each year must be more or less on the same scale as job destruction.

In theory, unemployment could be reduced by slowing the pace of job destruction or raising the pace of job creation. But the OECD, in its *Jobs Study*, concluded that the main ways governments might try to slow the pace of job destruction through legislated work-sharing or through trade barriers are likely to be counter-productive in the long term because they will make the economy less flexible. Increasing the pace of job creation is therefore seen as the most promising route for reducing unemployment.

The first question an economist might ask when seeking an explanation for persistent unemployment is why it does not cause wages to fall to a level where the unemployed are priced into work.

One answer is that a qualitative distinction exists between the impact on the labour market of those in work — the so-called "insiders" — and those out of work — the "outsiders". This theory argues that the insiders are capable of obtaining increases in wages even when there is a large number unemployed. As a result, inflationary pressures can persist at the same time as high unemployment. Such inflationary pressures limit the ability of the authorities to pursue expansionary economic policies.

This distinction between insiders and outsiders can be extended by showing that the long-term unemployed (those who have been unemployed for more than a year) have even less effect on the rate of wage inflation than other unemployed — in other words, they are even more outside the labour market. This group of outsiders is becoming a greater proportion of the UK jobless.

> "Searching for work costs the unemployed time, effort and money"

Why should the insiders have this extra bargaining power? One reason is that employers lack information — they do not know how good potential recruits might be. They therefore play safe and try to get more out of their current staff rather than risk employing new people who may not be up to the job. Another reason is that companies face hiring and firing costs. Taking on workers involves recruitment costs, administrative costs and costs of training because most jobs require job-specific skills. These hiring costs are compounded by the fear that if new recruits have to be laid off, there may be firing costs, such as redundancy payments.

The unemployed may also have difficulty finding suitable jobs. Searching for work takes time, effort and money. These costs provide a disincentive for outsiders to look for employment. In addition, accepting a job can involve the unemployed in further costs. Apart from the costs of losing state benefits, Simon Burgess has also drawn attention to job acceptance costs, such as the cost of working clothes and the cash-flow costs of travelling to work, which are likely to occur before the first pay packet. If it is costly to take work, potential employees will demand a wage high enough to compensate. The proposals in the Budget try to bring those most outside the labour market more closely in touch with it by measures to improve employers' information about potential employees, to reduce the costs of employment, to cut employees' search costs and to reduce job acceptance costs.

The expansion of the Work Trial scheme, which allows employers to take on at no cost those unemployed for more than six months for a three-week trial period, is an attempt to bring the outsiders in by bridging the information gap. It gives employers the chance to find out how good potential recruits are before they have to pay for them.

The Budget also included measures that recognise the problems faced by employers when hiring the long-term unemployed. The 0.6 per cent cut in employers' National Insurance contributions for all employees earning less than £205 a week and the one-year NI holiday for firms employing those jobless for more than two years both reduce the hiring costs that make firms reluctant to employ new workers. The pilot Workstart Schemes, which will benefit about 5,000 people at a cost to the Treasury of £8 million, will compensate employers for their hiring costs by providing grants for those who take on the long-term unemployed. The new arrangements for payment of National Insurance and PAYE quarterly rather than monthly will also reduce the administrative burden of job creation for small firms.

The Budget increased funding for programmes to alleviate the costs of searching for employment. Community Action attempts to reduce the search costs of 4,000 long-term unemployed by providing work experience and help in looking for work. The Jobseekers Allowance will provide direct compensation for search costs faced by the unemployed and will penalise those who do not actively hunt for work. The national extension of 1-2-1 interviews and Workwise courses target the particular problems that face jobseekers aged between 18 and 24.

The measures to ease the transition into work are clear attempts to reduce the job acceptance costs faced by the long-term unemployed. The decision to exempt the Back-to-Work Bonus from tax means the long-term unemployed will receive greater compensation for the costs they face. The Jobfinder's Grant, an average payment of £200 to those unemployed for more than two years who find work, tries "to cover...start-up costs". Improvements in the payment of family credit and the four-week honeymoon for rent and council tax support help to mitigate a major job acceptance cost: the cost of losing social security benefits.

It may appear that even if these measures work, they will only recycle the unemployed, with long-term unemployed taking jobs that might otherwise be taken by those who had been unemployed for shorter periods. But the insider-outsider analysis suggests that, even if this is the initial effect, in the longer term the presence of more insiders in the labour market increases competition for jobs and improves the trade-off between inflation and unemployment. This in turn will result in the ability to run the economy at lower rates of unemployment without risks of inflation.

The latest rise in interest rates shows the authorities' concern about inflation, even when 9 per cent of the labour force remains unemployed. If the Budget measures are successful, it may be possible to delay future rises in interest rates. Evidence from a London Chamber of Commerce survey, where 27 per cent of firms said they will consider taking on the long-term unemployed because of the NI holiday, suggests that the Budget may well be successful, both in theory and in practice.

The authors belong to the Centre for Economics and Business Research.

US investment banks catch a cold in China

Wall Street's enthusiasm for Chinese deals has waned, says **Michael Steinberger**

Once Wall Street's golden child, China is now a juvenile delinquent. US investment banks are owed millions by Chinese trading firms that speculated — and lost — in commodities and derivatives.

Until recently, Goldman Sachs, Merrill Lynch and other Wall Street houses kept quiet about their missing dollars to avoid embarrassing Peking. The conspiracy of silence ended in November, when Lehman Brothers filed suit in New York against two Chinese firms it accused of defaulting on $100 million in foreign exchange and derivatives transactions.

But some Asian investment bankers believe that the Americans deserve their troubles. "It's fairly evident that you have people who are not sensitive about doing business out here and who are going to stunt the long-term development of the market," said Warren Allderige, a managing director of Hong Kong's Peregrine Securities. He and others contend that Wall Street's spendthrift approach to China, compounded by the current bear market, led to aggressive deal-making and heavy-handed efforts to curry favour with the Chinese. But as one Hong Kong fund manager said: "You can't expect to parachute guys in and get instant *guanxi* [connections]." But the Americans tried. Describing Wall Street's initial enthusiasm for China, one investment banker said: "Every chairman of every American house lands in Peking and thinks he's Kissinger. They're obsessed by China, so they tell the troops to be very aggressive." The troops obeyed. The Americans paid top dollars to strengthen their operations in Hong Kong, the gateway to China. Morgan Stanley increased its Hong Kong staff by more than 100 in the past year, and it is believed Goldman Sachs doubled its personnel to 400 in the same period.

> "Overpricing is what the Chinese want, and it's usually what they get"

Many employees were brought in from New York and London. With them came salaries that often exceeded $100,000 and housing allowances of $10,000 or more. The impact on Hong Kong's residential property market was profound. Rentals have doubled in the past two years. Charles Wheatman, of Jones Lang Wootton, the property consultant, believes US firms are the chief culprits.

Wall Street's need to earn a strong return on its investment in China became acute when global markets soured this year. The managing director of a Hong Kong financial boutique said: "The guys who run up the big bills, with the high rentals, the high salaries, they have got to make a fortune. That, in a bear market, forces you to take risks you would not normally take."

Was Lehman Brothers taking that type of risk when it allowed the firm's Chinese clients to trade heavily in currencies and derivatives? A portfolio manager with close ties to Lehman says, "There was a lot of pressure on the Lehman guys to extend the credit, to make things happen, to support the overhead."

There's little doubt among Western traders that the Chinese understand the risk of speculating in volatile markets. "They understand until things go wrong, and then they don't want to understand," said the chief foreign exchange dealer of a European bank.

The Asian bankers who are critical of their American counterparts do not condone the Chinese firms for their failure to pay Lehman. Nor are American investment banks the only firms to whom Chinese companies are in arrears: 31 Japanese, German, and Italian banks are trying to recoup $600 million in loans they made to state enterprises.

An American fund manager in Hong Kong said: "The Chinese have been overwhelmed by all the attention, and now there's a little hubris." Merrill Lynch knows that hubris first-hand. A Merrill banker said the Chinese State Council routinely puts investment banks through "beauty pageants" in which 20 houses bid to underwrite stock and bond issues. Overpricing is what the Chinese want and it's usually what they get. "It's hard to make money in this environment," the Merrill banker said.

Last February, Merrill underwrote a $1 billion global bond for Peking. Besides unfortunate timing — the bond hit the market just as US interest rates began to rise — the issue was priced too aggressively and Merrill took a significant loss. One investment banker said, "It's not Merrill's fault and it is their fault. They mispriced the bond. Still, you can't blame them. The State Council must have been all over them like a cheap suit."

After this year, cheap suits may be too expensive for some US investment bankers in Hong Kong. It is rumoured that Goldman Sachs is set to fire more than 100 employees there, while bonuses for those who keep their jobs will be much lower than last year's.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Final salary pension schemes benefit employers

From Mr Eric Bellenie

Sir, Richard Beardshaw (Business letters, December 20) succeeds only in confirming Alan Smallbone's contention (Business letters, November 30) that employers benefit from final salary schemes.

He quotes his CBI/Mercer survey: "First and foremost, the requirements of the labour market determine company pensions policy." Quite.

And his "surprise" at "paternalism and being a good employer...as second most cited reason" is pure Mandy Rice-Davies: "Well, they would say that wouldn't they?"

Likewise: "Facilitating the early retirement of older employees came last of all."

But neither correspondence mentioned that shareholders also benefit.

How? Employers take contribution holidays totalling many billions of pounds in order to maintain profit levels, share price and dividends.

But, then, pension funds need replenishing to meet liabilities for directors' pensions without risk to shareholders' dividends.

Solution: cull long-serving/older employees to create pension fund surplus which transfer to balance sheet as profits and distribute to shareholders as dividends.

Everybody wins except luckless early retirees on wrecked pensions reduced by 6 per cent for each year remaining to normal retirement age (someone retiring at 50 loses 90 per cent of his pension), paid largely by his own contributions. The Prime Minister's brother's weekly occupational pension is just £20.

And how apposite to find Employment Under Secretary Phillip Oppenheim's letter, extolling increased employment, adjacent to Mr Beardshaw's. Particularly since Mr Oppenheim's figures ignore those of the 21 million men and women aged over 50 who would prefer to remain in their jobs rather than be forced into premature retirement. After all, reluctant retirement is only unemployment by another name.

And they will be joined by another 500,000 next year. Early retirement and temporary jobs will ensure that the UK soon will return to full employment.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC BELLENIE,
Chairman,
The Over-Fifties Association,
29 Hill Court,
The Ridings, W5

Insurance is best means of safeguarding scheme members' interests

From Mr W. M. Forrest

Sir, In describing the Pensions Bill (*The Times*, December 17) Sara McConnell and Anne Ashworth paint a horrifying picture of complexity, cost, and state intervention, with no certainty of successfully combatting dishonesty.

At present, private sector schemes require Inland Revenue approval in order to qualify for tax benefits on pensions contributions and investment income. Could not a simple expedient be adopted of making it a condition of that approval, that the trustees insure the fund against defalcation? The insurers can then safely be relied upon to impose such terms and conditions on the cover as will safeguard their own interests, thus safeguarding the interests of the members of the scheme.

Yours faithfully,
W. M. FORREST
42 Lingfield Road, SW19.

From Mr Hugh Long

Sir, The chairman of the CBI Pensions Panel is no doubt right in his assertions in respect of the motives and rationale for the provision of final salary occupational pensions.

I suggest that your readers who are members should take an interest in the underlying mathematics of final salary systems and they will be able to judge the truths in terms of value-for-money and risks of achievement for their own situations.

Readers should not take such statements as "employers contribute twice as much as employees" at face value. This frequently quoted national aggregate statistic does not take into account sex and, most importantly, the greater time-value of employee contributions. On correction, for current retirements in aggregate assuming no mobility, I estimate this would be nearer one and a third to one. When the attributable, combined, National Insurance rebates are added to the employee's contribution this about halves the ratio. Mobile employees can suffer a further significant reduction at retirement due to the lower salary basis of successive deferred pensions at the same level of contributions. Failure to achieve average salary progression in later career has the same effect.

Readers should deduce the truth for themselves on the basis of the facts of their individual career and salary profile; namely, the actual or prospective rate of return on the investment of the contributions and the attributable NI rebates. It is a case of "*caveat emptor*".

Yours faithfully,
HUGH LONG,
67 Dartmouth Park Road,
NW5.

Daily Mail did not stretch the rules

From Mr Peter Williams

Sir, The Tempus column on December 16, in commenting on the results of Daily Mail and General Trust, seems to suggest, to my unbiased eye at least, that the company had pushed accounting rules to the limits in booking a profit arising from a share placing by its subsidiary, Euromoney Publications.

Quite the opposite was true. The treatment is a requirement of FRS2 and, whether or not we agreed with it, non-compliance would have had dire consequences. We did all that we could to highlight its inclusion in order to avoid misconceptions. Indeed, this was correctly reported on the previous page of your paper.

The column also suggests that the profit did not represent "real cash". I doubt that the institutions who subscribed for Euromoney shares or the bankers who hold the money would regard it as other than "real cash". It was included in our closing net debt figure, contrary to your assertion.

Yours faithfully,
PETER WILLIAMS,
Finance Director,
Daily Mail and General Trust plc,
Northcliffe House,
2 Derry Street, W8.

Unfair windfall

From Dr R. L'Amie

Sir, Whilst the difference between share accounts and deposit accounts may have had some real significance in Building Societies' 19th Century roots, most people today choose an account on its appropriateness to their needs. It seems strange that a mutual organisation should feel happy about giving one group of its customers a windfall profit and not others. Given the main objective of the proposed Halifax/Leeds merger is to become a bank it is surely wrong that those customers currently using one of the societies as a bank (cheque account holders) should be discriminated against. The argument that they have a lesser interest in the society than investing or borrowing members is fallacious, given the duration of many current accounts.

Yours faithfully,
R. L'AMIE,
9 Glen Rise,
Baildon,
Shipley.

Risks of will drafting

From H. J. Belsey

Sir, On two occasions recently I have been telephoned by a lady canvasser on behalf of a firm of "Will Drafters" offering to send their representative to advise me on making a will.

I can hardly think of anything more dangerous than this invitation to the gullible which could easily result in the full disclosure of their assets to someone whose only introduction had been a casual telephone call. Surely this practice should be made illegal and I hope that the matter can be raised in the House of Commons, and what has the Law Society to say?

H.J. BELSEY,
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Chislehurst,
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Early gains halved

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
523	380½	Abbey Nat	432½	-3½	4.5	14.5
314	233	Allied Irish	271	+1	4.8	10.4
278½	171	Ans New Z	209		6.0	*
3300	2462½	Bank America	2593¾	+18¾	..	..
247	172½	Bank Scotland	214	+4	3.1	12.1
640	487	Barclays	615	+1	3.4	15.0
319	246	Bk of Ireland	297	+2	4.9	8.6
2912½	2262½	Citicorp	2593¾	-81¼	..	..
285½	203	Close Bros	226		4.1	*
£150¾	£121¾	Commerzbk	£138¾	+22¼	6.0	...
1396¾	1056½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1206½	-28¾	0.5	...
£344¾	£270¾	Deutsche Bk	£300¾	+45¾	2.3	...
1315¾	787½	Espirito Santo	825	+25	4.7	4.1
90	58½	First Nat Fin	59	+1½	3.2	..
1549¼	1152½	Fuji Bank Y	1303¾	-13¼	0.4	*
473	209	Hambros	229	+1	8.2	14.1
1113	660	HSBC	717½	-8¼	4.3	10.4
1133	664	HSBC HK	707	-11	4.3	10.2
443	400	Joseph (L)†	408		5.4	11.9
693	424	Kleinwort Ben	553	+5	4.4	9.7
660	519	Lloyds	568	-6	6.2	11.0
620½	472	Nat Aust Bk	528		7.1	*
622	421	Nat West	517	+1	4.7	10.1
3300	2100	Ottoman Bank	2150		6.8	*
79	53	Rea Bros	65	...	1.8	18.2
528	377½	Ryl Bk Scotl†	401	+6	4.3	9.7
1574	1050	Schroders	1483	+3	1.8	13.8
1458	1043	Schroders N/V	1343	+4	1.7	12.3
114	75	Singer & Fried	86		4.6	11.1
359½	223	Stand Chart	282	+3	2.8	8.7
291	197	TSB	235½	+1½	4.3	11.9
1012	569	Warburg SG	693	+9	4.0	12.7
£105	8812½	Wells Fargo	9475	-12½	2.9	...
260	194	Westpac	224½	+7½	2.4	*
390	203	Wintrust	213		6.0	14.2

BREWERIES

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1025	150	Asmt Hldgs	165	...	...	...
619	485	Bass†	519	-2	5.1	13.1
291	248	Boddington	255	-1	4.1	13.7
196	168	Burtonwd Brwt	177		3.6	14.8
181	142	Eldridge P 'A'	156		3.3	*
66	46¼	Fosters Brewing	59		5.1	*
493	342	Fullr Sm 'A'†	344	-2	2.9	14.2
511	399	Greenalls Grp	432		3.9	21.0
584	452	Greene King†	536	-2	3.1	14.6
266	239	Hardy Hansn	245		4.9	*
170	135	Heavitree	150		3.4	13.5
3773	3125	Holt J	3388		1.8	18.6
246	195	Mansfield†	238	-1	2.4	14.6
314	256	Mrstn Thmpt	303		2.5	14.7
545	455	Morland†	465		2.3	14.0
10¾	6½	Paramount	7		3.6	*
309	209	Regent Inns	308		2.2	23.7
1665¾	1000	SA Brewerec	1553½	+96½	1.9	23.8
591	477	Scott & New	512	-2	4.3	14.5
306	218	Vaux Group†	218	-3	5.6	13.8
446	324½	Wetherspoon JD	346	+5	1.8	24.6
617	434	Whitbread†	569	-2	4.2	15.5
589	493	Wolvrhmptn D†	530		3.3	13.7
194	148	Yates Bros†	168		2.5	14.8
535	465	Young 'A'	465		4.0	19.7

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
205	130	Abbey	140	+2	4.7	10.2
200	148	Allen†	161		4.3	19.1
164	64½	Amec†	69	+1	5.4	39.6
165	47	Andrews Sykes	133	-2	..	
462	333	Ashtead	420		1.6	26.6
191	101	Avonside	104		5.3	12.2
41	35	Bailey (Ben) Con	35		2.5	21.4
88	18½	Barcon	41			
282	139	Barratt Devs	166	+4	4.5	12.9
169	122½	Beazer Homes	136	-2	5.0	10.7
304	179	Bellway†	191	+5	4.6	*
59	31	Bellwinch	32			28.1
573	326	Berkeley Gp†	349	-1	2.6	14.5
215	118	Bett Bros†	178		3.2	5.5
355	210	Boot (Henry)	218		3.8	10.7
93	35	Brandon Hire	90		2.1	
235	160	Br Bldg & Engt	160		6.2	10.0
197½	118	Bryant	124		5.0	13.9
145½	106	CALA	106		3.3	14.6
54	31	Campbell & Arm	34½			
62	44	Clarke T	49		3.2	41.6
43	20½	Costain	21			
186	108	Countryside	110		4.9	*
120	73	Crest Nicholson	74½	+½	2.7	13.8
140	96	Cussins	97		4.4	11.7
30	17	Edmond Hldgs	18		2.1	
473	283	Eve Group	283		4.9	11.4
60	24	Galliford	27		4.6	..
112	82	Gibbs & Dandy	88		3.8	
1028	823	Gleeson (MJ)†	828		2.1	14.2
66	71	Green (Ernest)	86		8.7	26.5
191	121	Havelock Euro	177	+2	2.1	16.2
169	138	Hewden-Stuart	140		2.7	16.1
144	56	Higgs & Hill	93		3.4	
32	20	Howard Hldgs	32		4.5	20.5
35	6	Jarvis	11			
132	104	Keller	113		4.2	13.1
428	204	Laing (J)	223		5.0	20.2
164	90½	Laing 6.4% Cv Pf	95	-½	8.4	
145	115	Lon Clydeside	122		4.9	16.9
173	53	Lovell (YJ)	61	+1	5.6	6.6
253	196	Maunders (J)	209		3.3	
221	154	McAlpine (A)	172		4.7	25.2
76½	50½	McCarthy & S	59	-1		
185½	94	Mowlem (J)	101		2.5	
379½	182	Persimmon	205	+3	5.6	15.4
2109¾	1450	Pochins	2109¾		1.9	21.1
138	125	Prowting†	126		3.6	19.0
116	44½	Raine Ind	49		7.7	16.0
61	35	Secure Retire	46			14.9
132	95	Redrow	104		3.2	10.2
67	50	Severfield-Rve	59		1.6	27.8
385	233	Sherriff Hldgs	385	+5	1.9	15.9
112	62½	Sharoc	109		4.3	15.3
245	195	Smart (J)	210		5.1	22.0
291	155½	Spandent	255		1.3	23.5
257	151	Tay Homes	167	+3	4.8	12.3
132	114½	Taylor Woodrw	130		3.3	31.8
750	539	Tilbury Dough	569		3.3	33.5
50	35	Torex Hire	53	-1	1.9	30.8
40½	23	Try Group	29		3.1	
139	90	Vibroplant	105		4.5	19.6
170	115	Wainhomes	117		5.2	12.6
74	48	Ward Hldgs	51		1.2	
225½	132	Westbury†	125	+1	4.5	12.6
7½	3½	Wiggins	5½			
259	154	Wilson (C)	161		3.3	13.4
571	312	Wilson Bowdn	326	-4	3.6	14.6
249	125	Wimpey G	131	-1	5.0	19.6

BUILDING MATERIALS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
27	12	Abraplan	14		4.5	13.3
341	283	Alumasc	328		3.2	
55½	43½	Amberley Grt	51	+2	3.1	27.9
382	274	BPB Ind†	295½	+1½	2.6	15.2
142	93	Baggeridge Brk†	123	-1	3.2	*
50	30	Bardon	34	+½	7.4	
244	125	Bersford Intl	#229		0.3	
33	58	Biccleys	67		1.7	
391	262	Blue Circle	293	+1	4.8	20.8
117	77	Breedon PLC	78		7.4	22.3
154	128	Br Dredging	130		5.4	15.6
409	321	CRH	355		2.7	18.0
70	31	Cakebread Rby	38			4.1
278	198	Capel	203		6.8	12.9
455	324	Caradon	355	-3	4.2	16.9
216½	114	Caradon pf	130	-½	7.0	
62	46	Chieftain Gp	54		8.1	10.8
134	89	Dyson (J&J)	112		3.9	16.9
97	67	Dyson 'A'	79		6.1	10.8
13½	4½	Echoise Blinds	13½	+½		
350	273	Epwin	277	+2	3.6	16.4
82	57	Erith	59	+1	2.2	30.2
218	160	Graham Grp	173	+2	3.3	16.5
399	337	Halstead (J)	341		3.7	18.7
511	284	Hepworth	323	+3	5.7	18.4
88	46	Hewden	65		2.2	14.7
205	85	Hewitt (J)	135		2.2	..
473	257	Heywd Wlm	270		6.2	15.2
100	67	Ibstock	80½		1.6	
294	149	Johnston	262		2.1	31.5
170	108	Lilleshall	108		5.4	11.3
213½	129	Marley	136	+1	3.9	16.1
155	126	Marshalls	134		4.2	11.8
569	343	Meyer Intl	359	+1	3.8	14.0
196	146	Newman Tnks	167	+1	4.8	21.1
212½	102	Norcros†	108		8.1	20.5
20	9	Phoenix Timber	12			
208	156	Pilkington†	164	+2	3.9	31.6
185	126	Polypipe	132		2.2	15.2
1079	805	RMC Gp	955½	-2½	2.9	19.7
40	16	Ramus	17			
640	425½	Redland	469	+6	6.7	21.7
108	70	Rosket	98		5.5	
185½	102½	Rugby Group	123	+3	3.5	15.5
103	62	Russell (A)	89		3.2	18.3
283	222	SIG	260		2.7	20.9
21	16	SWP	16½		1.5	23.0
200	155	Sharpe & Fisher	179		3.1	13.1
81½	40	Spring Ram	40	-1	1.6	
206	112	Tarmac	124	+1	5.5	
220	160	Tilon	160		3.6	*
370	274	Travis Perkins	286	+1	3.6	17.6
28	21	Tudor	24		1.3	
54	33	Unigroup	36			
63	33	Waterhouse	48			
129	87	Wickes	91		1.8	20.4
975	705	Wolseley†	785	+5	2.7	15.5

BUSINESS SERVICES

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3¾	1¾	Anglo Utd	1¾	...	...	...
110	73	App Hldg	85			
165	107	Allwoods†	117		6.3	
11	6¼	Bailey (CH)	6¾			
49	30	Black Arrow†	47		8.2	7.5
124	70	Br Bloodstock	77			69.1
13	5½	Card Gp	9¾			16.0
10½	4½	Chemex†	6½	-¼	1.9	*
157	109	Cosalt†	140		7.1	9.9
237	188	Filofax	217		1.2	18.6
50	28	Headway	43	-1	2.0	33.5
292	234	Hozelock	260	+1	3.6	
248	158½	Leigh†	159	-1	6.2	14.7
374	214	Nobo Gp	227		3.3	14.6
310	207	Photo-Me†	262		2.3	27.3
60	38	Plant & Gen†	56		3.9	
185	82	Plantsbrook	173		2.5	20.4
12½	5	Porth Group	5			
51½	5½	Rodime	11½			
120	78	Shanks & McEwan†	84		3.1	
344	174	Sinclair (Wm)	183		4.9	14.1
700	350	Waste Mgt Intl	366	-2		13.8

CHEMICALS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
156½	115½	Allied Colloids	130		2.3	18.3
790	705	Amber Ind†	780		3.4	15.5
£140¾	£106¼	BASF DM	£130¾	+200	3.6	
767	627	BOC†	714	-2	4.3	28.4
373	281	BTP†	293		4.4	18.5
£160¾	£129¾	Bayer DM50	£150¾	+575	3.0	
131	98	Brent Chems	108		4.6	
309	219	Br Vita	230		4.1	17.1
37	18	Cambridge Iso	26			
199	153	Canning (W)	183		5.0	31.0
580	420	Courtaulds†	462	+2	4.0	31.5
389	327	Croda	381	+1	2.8	16.4
143	95	Doeflex	132		4.4	13.3
68½	35½	Euro Colour†	59½	+1	2.9	17.2
149	110	Gibbon	122		5.7	11.0
223	108	Hickson	122		8.2	10.9
£159¾	£108¾	Hoechst	£135¾	+56¼	2.7	
250	153½	Holliday Chem	203		2.7	16.6
868	727	ICI	763	-7	4.5	61.6
191½	108	Kalon	116	-½	4.7	11.0
843	675	Laporte	710		3.7	18.0
96	48	MTM	80		0.8	
405	290	Manders	292		4.3	14.2
127	100	McLeod Russell	113		6.9	*
128	61	Metrotect	66		6.5	8.9
679½	358½	Montedison	448½	-¼	4.4	20.7
349	285	Porvair	290		1.9	21.8
272	186	Scapa†	192		3.9	15.6
66	39	Sutcliffe Speak	33		2.7	19.4
852½	656	Takeda Chem	783½	+11	0.8	14.5
490	335	Wardle Storeys†	335		6.4	18.7
220	191	Wellington Hdg	191		3.4	18.5
823	570	Wolstenhlme R	788		3.0	16.5
483	345	Yorks Chem	367	+1	3.9	15.4
336	258	Yule Catto	279		2.9	21.2

DISTRIBUTORS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
127	105	ABI Leis†	105		4.8	*
300	248	Acal†	299		2.9	16.2
585	253	Adam & Harvey†	585		3.3	7.3
31	21	Alexanders	21	...	3.0	19.5
175	113	Appleyard	113	...	6.4	10.9
6	3¼	Ass Br Eng	4½		1.4	58.8
578	495	BSS Group†	515	+1	4.4	18.2
25½	17	Boaring Power†	21		6.0	*
405	349	Bletchley Mtr	256	-5	5.1	10.5
40	28	Bogod 'A'†	31		3.1	9.6
370	288	Brammer	349		4.7	19.4
31	15½	Bridgend Gp†	18		1.8	...
99	78	Brit Fittings	87		3.2	...
71	40	Brown & Tawse	40			
57	35	Burndene	37		8.7	*
465	245	Caffyns†	258		5.4	18.1
51	24½	Cartel Pict	26½		5.2	14.7
130	84	Central Mtr	88		5.0	21.8
51	32½	Cook (DC)†	40		3.6	12.3
342¾	197½	Cowie▲	227	+3	5.0	11.3
193¾	137	Dag Motors	138		5.9	15.9
668	448	Dennons El	563		1.4	16.8
628	414½	Diplomat†	425		4.0	*
589	443	Electrocomponent†	472		2.7	19.3
175	133	Electron House	158	+1	2.5	16.3
283	225	Ellis & Everard	260	-2	3.7	19.2
234	201	Eurodollar†	204		5.2	16.0
173	106	European Mtr†	109		5.2	11.8
539½	395	Evans Halshaw	400		4.4	12.6
856	490½	Farnell Elect	515		1.9	21.1
78	50	Fife Indmar	61		5.6	9.0
34	16	Gardner	16		5.9	7.6
46	19	Gleacheston	20½	+1		22.6
90	60	Gowrings	73		3.4	22.2
76	59	Hallen Hldgs				55.4
161	122	Harris (Philip)†	147	+2	5.8	12.9
342¾	268½	Henlys	272		3.4	14.8
191	88	Holders Tech	92		8.2	10.0
138	110	ISA Intl	110		1.9	13.7
609	395	Inchcape†	434	-1	4.3	14.4
68	35	Jacks (Wm)	56			13.0
184	145	Kwik-Fit	165	+2	3.0	18.9
573	291	Lex Service	300		5.8	11.5
282	182	Lookers	194		4.4	12.1
20	14	Mitays Grp	15	+½	2.1	..
5	3½	Mndmsex ©	8¼			
440	279	Nortrad	425		0.7	20.4
100	47	Northumbert	91		1.8	38.6
175	152	PCT	152		6.1	14.7
310	232	Pendragon	253		3.7	16.8
238	161	Perry Gp	161		5.4	8.8
218	131	Quicks Group	131		5.0	13.8
183	97	REA	158		4.7	32.7
5¼	2¾	Reece	2¾			
24	4	Ross Gp	6		4.2	..
48	32½	SEP Intl	40	+1½	3.3	..
44	31	TLS Range	41		3.0	16.5
285	215	Time Products†	232	+1	4.7	15.6
221	151	Vardy (Reg)	151		3.8	14.3
335	245	Wholesale Ftgs	245		6.0	*
20½	13½	Wills Gp	18½	-½	3.4	10.4
71	39½	Wilshaw†	71	+2	1.1	23.9
69	40	Wyko	60		1.0	*
96	61	Young (H)†	68		6.6	*

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
302	148	Adwest	156½		6.0	16.0
380	199½	Arcolectra	323	-5	1.4	26.1
62	43	Armour†	48½		4.6	10.1
993	773½	Broken Hill	992		2.2	37.7
401	273	BTR	297½	+2½	5.3	15.7
570	372	BAT†	442	-3	5.9	11.6
91	43	Bibby (J)†	72		5.2	*
57½	44	Brierley Inv	48½	+1½	9.3	*
836	636½	Charter†	790	+1	3.6	22.5
285	226½	Cookson	236		3.4	21.3
302	217½	Hanson†	234½		6.4	16.2
220	141	Harrisn Crsfld	142		7.9	16.2
365¼	239¼	Hutch Whamp	268¾	-¼	2.1	18.9
710	409½	Jardine Math	464½	+8½	3.2	10.4
36	27½	Jourdan (T)†	29		4.3	28.8
175½	124½	Lonrho	151½	-½	3.3	41.6
44	16	Power Chadm	40½			
706	513	Powell Duffryn†	521	+1	6.2	14.8
164	118½	Ropner†	138		7.3	14.5
489	337	Rothmans†	459	-2	6.3	22.0
34½	9½	Saturna▲	12			4.6
163½	105	Sime Darby▼	144	+9	3.0	18.3
267	170	Stanley†	170		6.2	49.7
220	155	Suter	156		7.5	15.0
268	230	TT Group	247	-1	2.2	..
283	202	Tomkins	226	+6	4.1	14.5
124	69	Trafalgar Ht	75	+1	1.7	..
440	245	Unidare	295		3.6	15.2
324	246½	Wassall	265	+3	1.6	24.5
13½	7½	Widney	11½	+½	2.3	..
414½	309	Williams Hldg	321	-3	6.1	19.8

ELECTRICITY

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
994½	610½	East Midlands	938	+19	4.2	34.9
866	566	Eastern Grp	779	+10	4.0	16.9
776	534	London Elect	738	-7	4.2	11.3
982	635	Manweb	955	+15	4.0	10.1
845½	547	Midlands Elec	798	+3	3.9	12.1
520	404½	National Power†	498½	+7½	3.3	13.7
1085	599	Northern Elec	1010	+4	3.4	12.5
421	325	Nthn Ireland	358		4.2	9.6
851	587	Norweb†	850	-11	3.6	11.2
602	419	PowerGen	541	+10	3.2	11.7
417	307	Hydro-Elect	329	-6	5.0	10.3
486	325	Scottish Power	353	+7	4.6	11.0
430	299	Seeboard†	477	-15	3.2	12.6
981	591	Sth Wales	878	+19	4.2	11.7
877	551	Sth Western	874	+9	3.6	11.5
837	540	Southern Elec	807	+16	3.9	11.6
795	532	Yorkshire Elec	737	+19	4.4	13.6

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
107	63	Acorn Comp	98			
650	478	Admiral	635	..	1.3	19.5
380	163	Alba	300		2.2	15.5
250	125½	Amstrad	134		2.3	..
59	24	Arlen	35			
94½	78	Astec	84½	...	1.3	17.3
281	118	Azlan†	134		2.8	10.8
478	335	BICC†	360	+4	6.7	22.7
273	239	Beales Hunter	244		5.0	*
16	7	Berkeley Bus	8½	-½		
535	402	Bhol	430	...	3.4	..
380	230	Bowthorpe	290		3.0	16.7
21½	14½	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	19½	+½	1.6	11.2
235	203	CML Micro	205	-1	3.7	13.0
35½	20	Chloride†	23		0.5	64.4
150	81	Copymore†	110		4.9	..
202	148½	Cray Elect	153½	+½	1.7	19.0
497	412	Critchley†	461		2.3	19.4
338	269	Danka Bs Syst	335		0.6	24.6
556	430	Delta	445	-3	4.1	19.0
560	400	Domino	553		1.9	23.8
78	53	Dowding Mills	72		4.4	26.3
1635	1220	Druck	1470		0.9	27.4
3756¼	2300	Electrolux 'B'	3296¾	+18¾	1.6	55.6
38½	21	Emess	29¾		0.4	
4040¾	2737½	Ericsson 'B'	3603¾	-9¾	1.1	30.9
86	56	Eurocopy	71	+1	3.6	*
451	343	Eurotherm	400		1.7	*
403	334½	Fairey Group	400		2.0	21.2
283	180	Forward Gpt	195		3.5	12.0
58	14½	Forward Tech	41		2.3	8.5
353½	259	GEC†	275	-1½	5.0	13.8
191	102	Gestetner	117		2.6	
191	119	Graseby	140	+2	5.4	13.1
133	121	Ind Control	138		4.5	11.6
385	319	Kenwood App	319		3.7	15.6
890	730	Kershaw (A)	885		3.9	40.7
165	38	Kode	54		9.3	
55	44	LPA Ind	44		4.5	
320	250	MTL Inst	299		1.8	18.0
383	210	Memec Sv	350		2.1	19.5
45	31	Microvitec	35½	+½		17.8
494	185	Mitel	226	+9		
148	109	Murray Ent▼	116	+1	2.3	..
31	19	Oasis	22		3.6	*
91	60	Pacer Systems	60		7.4	21.7
98	74½	Peek†	82		5.2	20.6
2175	1400	Philips Lmp Inv	1909¾	-3½	1.0	8.7
£115	9750	Philips Fn 4%	£110		5.2	
359	293	Pifco	349		1.6	23.9
344	283	Pifco 'A' Vtg	327		1.7	22.4
140	70	Plasmec	120		3.9	
129	90	Pressac	95		3.7	18.3
43½	17½	Prestwick	24			
303	181	Psion	250		1.5	17.5
281	187	Racal Electr	222	+2	2.5	18.2
53	33	Radamec	47	+2	5.1	12.9
311	226	Rotork	233		2.4	17.0
89	15	Scantronic	19	+1½	5.5	
43	34	Silvermines	40	+1	2.5	23.8
94	61	Soundtracks	62		4.8	14.1
104	38	Sthn Bus	47	-1	9.9	7.3
19	9	TDS Circuits	9½			
3225	2265¾	TDK	3125	+40¾	1.0	..
447	264	Tadpole Tech	376	+1		
170	77	Telemetrix	79		1.6	10.1
101	51	TGI†	94		3.0	17.5
368	191	Telspec	368	+1	0.8	44.5
246	133	Thorpe FW	238	+5	1.7	17.4
43	22	Total Systems	35			36.4
303	215	Tunstall	251		1.9	*
364	256	Unitech	350		2.3	27.4
15¼	8¼	Verity▲	9			24.2
483	382	Volex†	384		6.0	16.1
200	60	Walcoourne	79			
163	93	Whitecroft†	163	+1	2.7	17.9

ENGINEERING

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
185	119	AIM	168	...	3.3	44.8
138	54	APV	54	...	10.2	..
220	157	ASW	215		3.7	
126	20½	Acer Hamble	30		15.6	3.0
21½	14	Aerospace Eng	17	+¼	5.6	47.5
73	27½	Alvis	44	+3	2.9	
175	143	Ash & Lacy	143		5.6	14.8
553	480	Atlas Equip	553		5.0	18.4
125	66	Ayrshire Metal	121		1.5	14.8
51	34½	BM Gp	46½	+½		
40¼	26	Babcock	29½	+¼		
178	132	BWI†	135		6.2	20.7
88	64	Baynes (Charles)	81¾		2.7	20.9
96	33	Beaufort	38			
236	110	Billam (J)	111		6.0	8.9
329	282	Bodycote†	311		2.2	21.2
75	43	Boom Inds	73			
30	15	Brasway	15½		4.3	15.5
171	120	Bridon†	157		3.2	..
578½	385½	Br Aerospace	434	+2	2.6	38.1
172½	121½	Br Steel†	156	-½	2.8	18.9
125	86½	Bromsgrove Ind	92		6.1	11.7
18½	9½	Brooke Tool	13½			
186	135	Bullough	157		4.8	25.8
79	55	Bumfield	72		3.2	30.9
122	14	CI Group†	18		2.7	
293	247	Carclo Eng	282		4.3	17.1
155	110	Castings†	149	+5	2.4	18.3
230	150	Chamberlin Hill	150		5.6	9.5
360	272	Chemring†	297	-3	4.1	*
295½	180	Clyde Blowers†	181		3.1	*
337	235	Cobham	336		2.9	16.8
688	403	Cohen (A)	633		0.8	
263	178	Concentric†	193		4.0	*
310	235	Cook (Wm)†	241		3.9	11.3
296	198	David Brown	218		3.8	15.4
97	68	Dobson Park▼	68	+¼	6.9	
442	364	EIS†	380		4.1	15.3
101	69	Elliott (B)†	95		2.6	14.2
118	60	Expamet	89		3.7	83.1
212	144	FKI†	149	+2½	3.5	17.2
148	109	Fenner†	138		1.4	64.2
45	25	Ferrum	26			
88	73	GEI Intl	77	-1	4.1	14.1
134	91	Garton Eng	121		4.8	..
404	321	Glynwed	334	+1	4.4	19.6
14½	10	Graystone	12½		2.4	10.6
85	61	Haden MacLn	76		3.3	19.6
131	90	Hadleigh†	128		2.4	14.5
320	143	Hall Eng	150		6.7	11.7
256	204	Halma†	215		1.5	25.2
73	47	Hampson Ind	56		4.6	10.4
48	26	Hay (Norman)	26			
184½	132	Hill & Smith	134		5.4	14.6
63	38	Hopkinsons	55	+1	3.0	
41	27	How Gp	37		2.5	
103	78	Howden	94	+3	3.2	15.5
265	157	Hunting	174	+3½	7.2	24.8
513	402	Hurdligh Tec	430		1.5	20.0
379	286	IMI	317½	+2½	4.0	27.0
51	33¼	Johnson & FB	42			
628	488	Johnson Matthey	546	+2½	2.8	20.4
32	25	Jones Stroud	30			
334	250	Kelsey Ind	334	+6	5.0	*
285	205	Lucas	265		3.3	16.5
20½	11	Locker (T) At	11½	...	4.3	...
49	35	ML Hldgs†	35	...	4.1	12.2
87	26	MS Intl	28	...	7.2	15.7
179	139	Mang Bronze	137	...	3.6	10.7
539	381½	McKechnie†	394	+1½	4.7	23.2
120	71½	Meggitt	75½	...	6.5	12.2
120	101	Metalrax	104	...	4.5	17.3
133	99	Metsec	131	...	2.9	18.2
588	495	Molins	495		4.0	10.0
408	306	Morgan Crble†	314	+2	5.1	15.2
317	178	Morris Ashby	305		3.8	14.6
51	34	Neepsend†	34		4.6	17.1
128	51	Neolonics	51		6.4	11.0
60	45	Newmark (L)	45			
59½	39	OMI Intl▼	39½		5.5	
358	277	Oxford Inst	332		1.9	19.5
341	218	Powerscreen†	242	-5	3.9	10.2
23¼	13½	Prospect Indst	14¼	+¼	7.5	7.3
108	60	Radiant Metal	73			
71	13	Ransomes	64			
96	70	Record	84		5.4	18.9
281	243½	Renishaw	280	+5	2.9	28.7
188	126	Renold†	185		2.0	25.8
73	51	Richard (Leics)	58		4.8	41.5
104½	76	Richardson West	77		5.3	16.9
204	161	Rolls-Royce†	180	+4	3.5	31.7
195	156	Rotork	170		3.2	17.3
190	134	Rubicon	143		4.0	18.1
150½	72	Senior Eng	82		5.2	13.4
270	245	Servomex	266		3.1	28.4
630	500	Siebe	561	+5	2.6	17.9
130½	75	Simon Eng	86			
82	35	Sir Hundred	81		2.3	28.0
1459½	1031¼	SKF 'B'	1068¾	-87¼		
527¾	411	Smiths Ind†	436		3.7	16.8
485	337	Spirax-Sarco	452		2.7	19.2
257	197	Stothert	225	-3	3.9	14.6
455	343	TI	381	+6	3.8	21.1
121	92	Tinsley (E)†	100	-2	7.0	16.3
105	46	Transtec Tech†	58	-1	7.1	8.3
163	125	Triplex Lloyd†	130		6.7	..
18½	12	Utd Inds▼	15½	-1	0.8	..
1548	980	VSEL	1358		3.3	12.7
31½	12	Verson	14½			
204	163	Vickers	172	+1	2.5	18.2
327	230	Victaulic	246	+3	4.1	13.5
19	9¼	Villiers Grp	9½			
531	451	Vinten†	528		1.9	13.8
805	661	Vosper Thornyt	722		3.3	15.6
527	451	Wagon Ind	453		5.1	22.7
354½	240½	Weir	279		3.0	16.6
46½	37½	Wellman†	41	+½	3.0	66.9
548	365	Whatman	382	+1	3.4	14.0
264	80	Whessoe	125		2.3	..

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
66	31	AAF Inds	34			
160	108	Airflow Stream†	159	...	3.1	15.6
639	467	Avon Rubber†	469	...	4.4	*
236	173	BBA	202	+1	2.8	..
86½	54	BSG†	56½		7.1	35.3
18½	8½	Benson Group	9½		4.3	13.0
305	180	Bostrom	300		2.5	17.1
28½	17	Boxtead	23		5.5	*
22	11¼	Caverdale	11¾		1.6	11.9
332	275	ERF†	325	-1	1.5	..
370	296	First Tech	370	+1	1.8	21.2
660	510½	GKN	587	+1	4.4	34.3
4387½	2337½	General Mtr	2700	+175	1.9	..
1239	918½	Honda Motor	1157½	+14½	0.4	..
432¼	331	Laird▼	345		3.9	16.7
350	233	Leades	345			..
239	158	Lucas†	206	+4	4.2	
64	50	Mayflower	53		3.3	21.6
124	61	Medstates	62	-2		8.6
178	149	Syltone	161		3.9	17.6
261	157	T & N	163	+3	8.3	14.2
333	263	Trinity Hldgs†	323	+2	2.5	23.4

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
607	499	AB Food	579	-3	3.5	11.9
388	248	Acatos & Hutch	255		4.3	*
74	40	Albert Fisher†	46	+1	10.1	15.7
270	210	Banks (S C)	215		5.7	8.2
383	305	Barr (AG)	375		2.2	24.2
72	35	Bensons Crisp	38	+1	5.2	..
481	378	Booker†	398	-1	6.9	14.7
56½	48	Borthwick†	48½		3.4	23.0
212	156	CPL Aromas†	201		1.9	18.2
545	392	Cadbury-Schw	432	+3	4.5	14.3
244	143	Carrs Milling†	244	+6	3.2	*
167	130	Cranswick	144		7.2	12.0
154	90	Dalepak	110		1.7	*
543	389	Dalgety†	418	+1	6.3	11.7
87	50	Daniels S	54		0.7	..
294	210	Devro	218		3.6	14.7
101	52	Everest	63	-1	5.0	23.6
8½	4½	Faringdon	4½	+¼		
85	61	Finlay (James)†	67		7.7	9.1
30½	13	Global	14		4.5	12.8
77	38	Grand Central	57	-9		
194	104	Hazlewood Fdst	115		7.3	7.2
196½	151	Hillsdown†	180		6.1	12.8
28	16	Hobson	23½			
111	83	JLI Group†	83		7.3	11.7
408	313	Linton Park	346		6.3	9.9
127	85	Matthews (B)	114		3.0	13.7
181	160	Man ED & F†	175	-2	6.1	9.6
246	205	Nichols (JN)	231		3.2	14.8
271½	193	Nrn Foods†	217	-1	5.1	11.1
14	9	Nthmbrn Fn	10½			
46	23	Pascoe's	23			
81	62	Perkins Food	66		8.4	11.1
96	73	Sentry Farm	84		3.3	8.5
122	71	Sims Food	78		12.0	*
467½	392	Tate & Lyle†	424	+1	4.2	9.7
238	145	Treas	205		2.5	16.7
434½	317	Unigate†	344		6.4	9.4
1247	958	Unilever	1166	+3	2.7	16.8
8118¾	6496¾	Unilever (NV)	7603¾	+278¼	2.8	15.3
388	293½	Utd Biscuits†	330	+3	5.8	26.9
49	33	West Trust	36		8.6	24.9
133	99	Yorkshire Food	108	+4	3.6	12.8

HEALTHCARE

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
544	325	AAH†	337	+1	6.6	11.8
1141	845	Amersham†	847		2.4	17.7
85	43	Anagen	51			
297½	205	Assoc Nursg	208	-2	1.4	12.1
393	243	Bespak	278		4.6	14.3
10	5	Care UK	7	+½		
115	60	Celsis	77			
151	86	Chiroscience	97			
47	38	Cortecs	38			
297	232	Community H	240		4.1	13.9
44	29	CrestaCare	31	+¼	3.7	*
146	96	Enviromed†	112		1.8	*
110	82	Ferraris Group†	86		3.3	*
171	134	Goldsborough†	151	-2	1.9	*
15½	9¼	Greenacre	10		4.2	13.3
185	39	Intercare Gp	43		8.3	*
325	278	Isotron	280		2.1	
171	107	Life Sciences	132		3.9	13.1
152½	74	Lon Intl	86	+1		
80	42	Nestor-BNA	45		8.8	11.1
3	1½	Premier Health	1½			
380	227	Quality Care	253		3.2	14.7
210	123	Scholl	130		8.1	12.7
363	275½	Seton Health▼	320	+1	2.7	16.3
83	44	Shield Diag	56			
159½	136¼	Smith & Neph	152½	-¼	4.1	16.9
21	6	Specialeyes	6	-½		
292	192	Takare	217		1.2	18.9
313	245	UniChem▼	268	+1	3.2	14.4
400	294	West Hlthcare	342½	+1½	1.6	*

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
312	201	Airsprung†	302		3.0	12.6
193	115	BLP Group	149		0.8	40.9
39	26	Bilston Batrsea	35			
167	91	Crowll Pr 'A'	105		6.8	23.5
285	170	Creighton Nt†	170		5.7	12.0
165	133	Denby Group	148		2.6	*
168	113	Gozzell	135		3.9	*
14	4½	Lionheart	4¾		5.3	
231	166	Maybom	181		4.1	12.0
335	250	Ontime Ind	274	-1	4.8	12.2
480	230	Osborne & Little†	392		2.4	11.9
625	428	Paterson Zch	449		3.9	13.0
595	413	Paterson Zch 'A'	419		4.1	12.1
714¼	526	Reckitt Colm▼	593	-4	3.8	15.0
291	211	Relyon	261	+3	2.6	47.6
378	194	Silentnight†	196	+1	5.1	12.3
46	27½	Stoddard†	29½		6.8	11.1
330	208	Tomkinsons	209		6.9	*
160	125	Victoria Carpet	130		4.3	7.0
110½	94½	Walker Greenbk▲	102		4.4	18.8
63	44	Wolnd Wdgwd	58			45.2
155	155	Wood (Arthur)	155		2.4	31.2

INSURANCE

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1493¼	937½	Alex & Alex	1237½		5.4	..
2043¾	1567½	Am Gen	1825	+37½	4.1	..
112	84½	Angerstein	89		1.7	73.4
86	48	Archer	59	+1	2.1	..
165	85	Bradstock	94		7.9	*
550	370	Britannic	398	-1	4.1	*
117	88½	CLM Insce	96		2.0	83.6
701½	481	Com Union	518	+5	4.8	19.5
108	86	Delian	97		0.6	..
1950	1650	Dom & Gen	1655		2.1	17.7
64	31	FAI	39	+2	1.3	..
221½	145	FBD E	163½	+½	4.2	7.6
194	140	Fenchurch Grp	161	+1	6.4	..
114	89	Finsbury Under	97		1.7	82.6
757	491	Gen Accident†	518	+3	6.7	8.3
247	161	GRE†	170	+1	5.7	19.0
105	80	HCG Lloyds	92		1.8	77.5
457	211	Heath C E†	248		8.1	..
245½	177½	Hibernian IE	189	+1	5.2	7.1
114	86	Hiscox Select	108		1.7	..
323	238½	Independent	287	-½	4.1	7.2
241	178	Irish Life	185	+1	8.3	17.3
203	118	JIB Group	126		7.4	11.6
547	407	Legal & Gen	435	+1	5.8	17.3
1559¾	965½	Liberty Life	1553¼	+50	6.8	5.9
119	91	London Ins Mkt	99		2.5	34.5
310	157	Lloyd Thomp	161		6.1	10.6
471	313	Lloyds Abbey	331	-1	7.0	10.0
185	158	Lombard Ins	175		5.5	16.7
443	282	London & Man	310	+3	6.5	15.4
119	91	London Ins Mkt	99		2.5	34.5
236	155	Lowndes Lmbt	183		5.9	10.1
5893¾	4531¼	Marsh McLn	5137½	-6¼	3.7	..
110	84	Masthead	95			
188	147	Nelson Hurst	180		3.9	18.0
106	76	New London Cap	86		1.5	..
129½	100	Orion	102		6.1	*
99	75	Premium Trust	75		3.3	*
124	101½	Premium Under	110			
385	271	Prudential	322	+4	5.3	13.9
83	31	PWS	35		10.7	5.8
404	239	Refuge	248	-1	5.8	18.3
350	232½	Royal	280	+4	4.0	5.8
222	139	Sedgwick	153		4.9	17.3
155	104	Steel Burrill	132		9.2	..
87	54	Sturge Hldgs	66½	-2½	5.8	*
418	285	Sun Alliance	300	+5	8.2	8.3
107	81	Syndicate Cap	89		1.8	70.9
96	51	Trade Indemnty	60		1.9	13.4
464	329	Transatlantic	329	-1	4.6	29.8
673	432	Utd Friendly	465	+2	4.8	23.9
245	129	Willis Corroon†	140		5.9	16.5
28	20	Windsor	23		2.8	..

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
338	280	3i†	335	+1	2.8	..
105½	79½	Abtrust Emerg†	81		0.3	..
102	80	Abtrust High Inc	80	-½	8.9	..
250	205	Abtrust N Dawn	218		0.5	..
2058	1678	Alliance	1734	+6	3.4	..
293	247	American Trust	258	+2	2.6	..
479	401	Anglo & O'seas	420	+2	2.1	...
198	141	Baillie Gifford SN	149			
219	173	Bankers†	185	+½	2.6	*
75¼	43¾	Baring Em Eu	45	-½	0.3	...
381	311	Baring Tribne	320	+1	2.6	...
248	198	Berry Starq	222		1.2	..
120½	85½	Br Assets†	90		6.0	...
98	89	Br Empire Sect	90¾		1.3	...
46	31	Br Empire Wts	32			
234	188	Br Inv†	205		3.0	...
105¼	63¾	Brazilian	100¼	+¼	0.3	...
272	221	Brunner	227		2.9	..
161	117	BZW Conv†	130		7.5	*
363	310	Candover	338		4.1	...
65	50	Central Euro Gwth	51½			
271	163	Chars & Eastern	165		2.7	..
223	186	Conti Assets	186		2.0	...
95	80	Dartmoor Inv Inc	80		13.0	...
328	268	Derby Cap	308	+3		
173	147	Derby Inc	160		12.3	...
100	62	Drayton Blue†	82		16.9	...
111	84	Drytn Eng Int†	92		1.1	..
156	128	Drytn Far East	142	+½	8.6	...
784	613	Dunedin Inc G	645	+3	5.1	..
108	85	Dunedin Japan	89½			
341	292	Dunedin Smlr	302		3.7	*
80	35	Dunedin Wts	36½			
827	725	Dunedin Wwide†	738	+1	1.6	*
122	92½	Edin Dragon	100½			
53½	42½	Edinburgh Inca	43½	-1½	0.1	..
360	281	Edinburgh	303	+2	3.7	..
179	139	EFM Japan	160			
354	286	Electra Inv	320		2.9	*
220	185	Electric Gen	190		2.2	..
201	169	Eng & Caledon	182		2.7	...
127	108	English Scot	109			
345	273	European Asset	278		2.1	..
174	145	Fidelity Euro Val	154		0.2	...
103½	79	Fidelity Jap Val	83			
172	146	Finsbury 'A'	156		2.4	..
86	68	First Spanish	69	-1	0.5	..
343	274	Fleming Amer	283		0.5	..
145	68	Fleming Chinese	75	-½	0.8	..
92	28	Fleming Ch Wts	35			
267	196	Fleming Claver	203		3.4	..
305	300	Fleming Cont†	301		0.9	..
210½	158	Fleming Em Mkts	158½			
264	190	Fleming Eng	206		2.9	..
459	327	Fleming F East	334		0.8	..
422	350	Fleming Fledg	356		1.1	..
120	89	Fleming HI Inc†	96		5.8	..
109	87	Fleming Incom†	87	-1	0.6	..
84	42	Fleming In Wts	45			
52½	34½	Fleming Intl	35½	+¼	12.7	..
284	223	Fleming Japan	256	-1		
347	269½	Fleming Merct	275		3.0	..
347¼	280½	Fleming Overs	292		1.8	..
155¼	126½	Foreign & Col	137	+3	1.6	..
108	93	For & Col Inc Grt†	101	+1½	1.7	..
148	106½	Frgn Eng Mkts	120	-2½		
77	64½	Frgn Enterprise	70½		1.1	..
261	216	Frgn Eurotst†	218		0.7	..
145	114	Frgn German	121	+1	0.5	..
374	295	Frgn Pacific	315		1.0	..
144	116	Frgn PEP	122		3.6	*
192	159½	Frgn Smaller†	160½		1.6	..
120	91	Frgn US Smlr	97	+1		
28½	21½	Fulcrum Cap	24			
54	46	Fulcrum Inc†	46		23.5	..
142½	134½	Fulcrum Zero	141	+½		
213	190	Gartmore Brit	190		4.8	..
151	124	Gartmore Eurot	129		0.9	..
130	85	Gartmore Sholt	87	+1	14.2	..
247	201	G'more Smlr Cos	206		3.5	..
128	99	Geared Inc Inv	100		10.4	..
200	148	Genl Cons Cap	149			
115½	104	Genl Inc†	105		10.4	..
106	88	German Inv	91	+½	0.1	..
325	214	Gov Asian Sm Co's	233	-1	0.1	..
151	101	Gov Eng Mkts	119	-1	0.3	..
191	138	Govett Am Smlr	144			
96½	88	Gov Glob Smlr	84			
112	78	Govett High Inc†	83		7.0	..
429	349	Govett Oriental	381		0.4	..
346	231	Govett Strategic†	238		3.6	..
475	402	Greenfriar	402		2.1	..
19	6	Gresham House	6			
303	227	GT Japan	242		0.6	..
155	119	H Govett Smllr Co	119½		1.1	..
138	113	Hend Highl	116	-1	6.1	..
293	257	Hend Stratst	277		0.2	*
105	86	Herald	91			
116	88½	HTR Jap Smaller	105	-1	0.5	..
27	13	I&S Est	15			
119	94	I&S UK Smllr†	99		3.5	..
125	80½	Inv Cap	90		7.2	..
93	87	Int Biotech	87			
50	30	Int Wts	32			
177	126	INVESCO Korea	148½			
132	88½	J Fry 2nd Ut	95		8.4	..
100	94	J Fry Euro U	94		6.4	..
256	187	JF Fledg Jap	222			
121	102	Jupiter Intl Grn	102		4.2	..
243	195	Kleinwort Chrt	201		3.2	..
149	115	Klnwt E Mkt	120	-1		
124	105	Klnwt End	115			
88½	73½	Klnwt Euro Prvt	75½	+1	1.3	
49	23½	Klnwt Euro Wts	25	+1		
116	79	Klnwt H Inc†	81		11.8	..
272½	224	Klnwt O'seas	233	+1	1.8	
165	125	Klnwt Smlr	127		3.1	..
201	123¼	Latin American	124	-2		
836	672	Law Debenture	733		3.3	
129	90	Lazard H Inc†	96		8.3	
97	79	Lloyds Sm Cap	81			
35	28	Lloyds Sm Div	28½		15.6	
129	107	Lloyds Sm Pkg	110		4.0	
174	141	Lon St Lawrence	160		4.9	
108	81	Lon Smaller Co's	82		4.8	
334	265	Lowland	285	+1	4.1	
1440¾	887½	Lydenburg	1387½		1.7	
630	495	M&G 2nd Dual Cap	540			
151	127	M&G 2nd Dual Inc	135		24.8	
2773	2440	M&G Dual Cap	2620			
353	285	M&G Dual Inc	290		30.3	
77	54	M&G Inc Geared†	65½		9.4	
34½	25½	M&G Inc Inv Tst Cap	29			
45	35	M&G Inc Inv Tst Inc†	36½	-½	16.9	
137	117	M&G Inc Package†	121		5.1	
59	50	M&G Inc Zero Div	54½	-½		
36½	27½	M&G Rec Cap	30½			
72½	61	M&G Rec Geared	61½		7.9	
37½	30	M&G Rec Inc	30		16.1	
151	128	M&G Rec Pacge	131		3.7	
80½	68	M&G Rec Zero Div	73½	-½		
128	99	M Currie Euro	106		0.3	
180	133	M Currie Pac	138		0.3	
227	190	Majedie†	194		3.4	
57	44	Marakn	55			
125	92½	Merc Wld Mg	94	-2		
324	237	Merchants	265		5.3	..
90	79½	Mercury Euro Pvt	82		0.9	
45	27	Mercury Wts	28½			
52½	29	Mercury Wld Wts	30		...	
595	492	Monks Inv Tst	514		1.7	
156	126	Morg Gren Inc†	132		4.5	
64	39	Morg Wts	43			
111	83	Morg Lati Amer	83	-2		
66	39	Morg Wts	48	-1		
148	109	Murray Ent▼	116	+1	2.3	
68	54	Murray Euro	57½		0.6	
393	317	Murray Income†	325	+1	4.6	
385	319	Murray Intl	334	+1	4.7	...
164½	153	Murray S/C DF	164			
174	138	Murray S/C Cap	130	+1		
97	78	Murray S/C Inc	78	...	17.0	...
3400	2850	Murray S/C US	3050		4.3	...
548	424	Murray Smllr†	462	-1	1.2	...
363	302½	Murray Vent	308		4.7	...
69	31	Murray Enl Wts	32			
23½	16	Murray Eu Wts	16½			
58	15	Newmarket	16			
95	56	Neiborg Inc	58		9.3	...
104	85	Nethmg Cap	88			
404	333	O'seas Inv Tst	349		1.2	...
241	179	O'seas Wts	199			
640½	433	Pacific Assets	477		0.3	...
642	335	Pacific Wts	383			
120	89	Perpetual Jap	94			
9400	7800	Personal Assets	8775	+75	2.8	...
153	124	Pilot Inv	125		1.8	...
96	87	Piper Euro Sm	87			
92½	88	Prolific Inc	91			
188	164½	RIT Cap Ptnr	174		1.1	...
38	26½	River Merc Am Cap	27	-½		
121	101	River Merc Am Inc†	101		9.7	...
17	11	River Merc Am Wts	11			
150	114	River Merc Cap	121			
147	85	River Merc Ex Inc	85		11.3	...
49	14	River Merc Ex Inc Wt	15			
116	82	River Merc Gnl Inc†	83		11.3	...
35	23	River Merc Gnl Pd	26			
127	110	River Merc 1st Inc†	110		10.5	...
40	22	River Merc Wt	23			
170	118	River Merc Sm Co	126		4.1	...
77	31	River Merc Str Wt	32			
449	405	Robeco	409		3.1	...
463	415	Rolinco	417		1.9	...
99	82	Schrod Jap Gwth	88			
92	36½	Schrod Jap Gwth Wt	39	+1		
1112¾	781½	Schrod Korea Fd	890½	+1½	0.1	...
550½	411	Sch Korea Fd Wt	489½	+½		
113½	103	Sch Spl Zero Div	109½	+1		
37	27½	Sch Split Fd Cap	29½			
129	108	Sch Split Fd Inc†	111		8.4	...
99	86	Schrod UK Gwth†	91½		2.0	...
42	30	Schrod UK Gwth Wt	33			
282½	207	Scot†	211	+½	3.1	...
183	148	Scot American†	155½	+1	3.9	...
368	238	Scot Asian	260			
1070	663	Scot Wts	685			
97½	77	Scot Eastern	83		2.4	...
264½	205	Scot Mrge	220½	+½	2.4	...
108½	90	Scot Natl Tst†	91		10.3	...
133½	104	Scot Value†	107		3.3	...
1795	1475	Second Alliance	1514	+4	3.5	...
108	77½	Secs Tst of Scot	83½	+1	4.9	...
179	143	Selective Asset	143		1.3	...
161	128	SHIRESCO†	131		3.3	...
51½	33½	Sphere Inv	36		13.4	...
343	290	St Andrew Inv	303		3.3	...
412	310	Temple Bar	347	+1	4.9	...
135	99	Thrgm Asean E	106		0.6	...
568	468	Throg Dual Cp	493			
101	70½	Throgmorton	73½		3.9	...
164½	118	Tolina Emg Mkt	118½	-1	0.7	...
177½	133½	TR City Of Lon	147		4.5	...
205	141	TR Far East†	145	-1	5.0	...
124½	86	TR Pacific	110	-½	0.2	...
43½	31½	TR Property▼	31½		3.5	...
228	179	TR Smlr Cos	183½		2.6	...
152	102	TR Tech Inv	103½	+½	2.1	...
405	190	Tuney Tract	208	-3	1.2	*
289	232	USDC Invest	232		2.4	...
129	108½	Value Inc Tst†	115	+½	4.6	...
169	61	Wigmore†	64		1.0	...
257½	205	Witan	231		3.1	...
113	99	Yeoman Inc†	99		17.3	...

LEISURE & HOTELS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
131	81	1st Choice	113		3.9	
40	26	Aardn Sk H	30			
578¼	416	Airtours	434	+3	3.5	10.5
46½	18	Ald Leis	18			
177	135	Alpha Airpts	143		3.5	...
48	36	Arcadian	40			
131	85	Baldwin	115		3.8	19.8
333	224	Barr & W 'A'	224	-1	5.6	9.3
250	135¼	Bluebird Toys	229		3.3	6.8
365	231	Boosey Hwks	333	+1	1.9	19.7
7¼	2¾	Brent Walker	3			
200	100	Bristol Stads	183		2.0	...
7¼	1½	Buckingham Int	2			
250	114	Carysfort	250		1.6	37.0
94	74	City Centre Rest	81		2.7	15.4
374	305	Compass Gp	334	-2	2.6	*
290	232	Eurocamp	239		5.2	9.9
213	78	Euro Disney	141	+18		
4	2	Euro Leisure	2½			
455	308	Fairline Boat	440		4.5	...
350	245	First Leisure	270		3.7	17.9
285	209½	Forte	244		3.3	28.9
207	169	Friendly Hotels†	174		4.1	29.1
79	49	GR Hldgs	55		3.5	...
598	475	Granada	507	+2	2.5	16.3
96	34	Hi-Tec Sports	37		8.4	9.4
216	125	Hornby	134		8.4	11.7
173½	142½	Jurys Hotel	158½	+½	4.4	14.2
18¾	11¼	Kunick	14	-½	4.6	
289	200	London Clubs†	281	-1	5.3	14.3
217½	145	Ladbroke	172	+1	2.5	30.3
104	84	Magnolia	64		0.2	
140½	107½	Man Utd	129		4.1	
109½	68	Mandarin Oriel	74	+1½	4.4	19.1
15	11¼	My Kinda Town	11¼			
67	34	Northern	66		5.7	10.9
102	65½	Pelican Gp	81		1.9	16.9
141	109	PizzaExpress	122		2.0	18.8
183	111	Prism Leisure	111		4.7	7.8
43	21	Quadrant Grp	25			
278	205	Ramsdens (R)	247		2.3	37.2
447¼	355½	Rank Org	410	+4	3.8	26.3
31½	18½	Ryan Hotels IE	26		5.0	14.8
1135	790	Savoy Hotel 'A'	913		0.5	..
92	60¼	Stakis	85		1.8	30.6
350	296½	Stanley Leisure	336		2.0	18.9
345¼	280	Tanjong	280		0.7	15.7
1165	959	Thorn EMI†	1032	+12	4.2	19.7
167	75	Tottenham Hot	153		0.8	41.1
163	129	VCI	161		1.6	14.4
149	112	Vardon	137		1.1	24.3
18	5	Wembley	5			
149	110	Zetters Gp	135		7.9	*

MEDIA

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
365	270	Abbott Mead	338		2.2	30.8
355	198	Adscene	300		2.7	21.5
33	17½	Aegis Gp	28½	-½		
11¾	5½	Allied Radio	5½			
26	13	BBB Design	13			6.7
235	155	Barbour Index	158		6.7	13.6
13¼	5½	Birkdale	6	-½		
345	320	Black (A&C)	320		5.3	11.6
402	213	Blenheim Gp	240	-5	5.4	9.0
205	133	Border TV	195	-1	2.8	16.1
413	365	Bristol†	368		4.2	37.4
259	255	B Sky B	257½			48.5
169	117¼	CIA Gp	131		1.7	21.2
438	325½	Capital Radio†	343	+3	2.6	*
1047	797	Carlton Comms	885	+3	2.9	17.0
89	76	City of Lon†	89		8.2	13.8
1650	1100	Daily Mail	1359¾		1.5	32.9
1484¾	868¾	Daily Mail 'A'	1008¾		2.1	34.4
314	280	Dorling Kind	314	+1	1.3	38.5
469	355	EMAP†	393	+2	2.8	21.7
881¼	538	Elsevier	661¼	+11¼	2.9	21.3
1975	1450	Euromoney Pbt	1835		3.2	*
17½	8	Pitch	11½			
485	309	Flextech	408	-5		
1033	875	GWR Gp	883		1.9	..
275	162	Gold Greenless	162		3.1	19.3
34	22½	Goodhead	26		8.2	..
356	228	Grampian	325		3.1	17.4
172	105	HTV Group	135		1.8	30.2
194	32	Harrington K	35		3.8	..
515	288	Haynes Pub	290		3.9	17.2
408	376	Hodder H'line	390		2.0	53.7
180	120	Home Counts	162		3.9	39.7
340	273	Independent	273		2.8	14.1
297	161	Intl Bus Comm	231		1.9	11.2
162	119	Inforunge	133		7.3	*
167½	137½	Johnstone Press	147		1.8	20.8
33½	20	Lopex	21		1.5	23.7
110	45	MAID	70			
538	338	Metal Bulletin	538	+3	2.8	28.0
177½	108	Midland Ind	113		3.1	15.5
203	123	Mirror Gp	131		1.0	6.9
431	344	More O'Ferrall	369	+4	4.5	21.2
343	242½	News Corp	259	+8	0.6	15.5
314	207	News Intl	210	+5	0.9	11.1
60	23½	Osprey Comms	31		8.4	..
735	551	Pearson	582		3.0	19.8
440	207	Phonelink	213			
780	603	Portsmth Sundt	693		2.3	12.4
339	249	Quarto	250		3.0	13.6
964	722	Reed Intl	800	+7	3.0	24.2
539¾	424	Reuters	476	+2	1.8	23.8
178	127	Saatchi	145			28.2
628	385	Scott Radio	565		3.0	..
574	355	Scot TV	422		3.7	28.3
40½	20½	SelecTV	23			
57	28½	Shandwick	41		1.3	8.2
252	187	Southnews†	237		1.8	23.8
200	96	Sterling Pub	98		4.7	9.2
159	117	Sunset & Vine	124		4.0	10.6
40½	28½	Taylor Nelson†	36		2.2	21.1
622	310	Telegraph	379		4.3	13.4
885	685	Thomson Corp	765	+10	4.9	38.2
472	367	Trinity Intl	372		3.4	17.1
760	518	Ulster TV	674		3.0	20.7
731	473	Utd Newspapers	475	+2	6.0	11.5
161	106	VTR†	106		4.7	11.4
36½	13	WACO	13		10.0	6.1
129	63½	WPP	106		1.2	15.2
400	150	Yorkshire TV	383	+4		

MINING

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
115	65	Alex Corp	95		4.1	*
3693¾	1762½	Ang Am Coal	3693¾		2.9	19.2
3798¾	2509¾	Ang Am	3737½	+53¾	2.0	33.4
7331¼	4593¾	Ang Am Gold	6506¼	-121¼	4.3	15.8
36	25	Anglo Pac Res	28	-½		
1512½	1196½	Ashanti	1390¾	+9¾		
166	108	Ashton	111		5.0	...
992	773½	Broken Hill	982		2.2	37.7
404	230	Bakyrchik	245			
481	284½	Beatrix	392½	+½	4.6	21.7
39	34	Bicorch	34		2.5	28.4
184	97½	Blyvoors	106½	-5		
64	39	Bougainville	39			
37	12¼	Bracken	18½		5.0	
898	513	Buffels	574½	-15¾	9.7	
6	2½	Butte	4½	+1		
968	745½	CRA	898		2.5	38.4
77	42	Central Pacific	46			
65½	35	Cluff Res	41½	+½		
143	28¼	Coal Inv	76			
302	65	Cons Murchison	205	-7	3.1	
1750	1318¾	De Beers	1487¼	+6¾	3.8	15.4
148	88	Deelkraal	105½	-3	3.4	9.1
131¼	30½	Doornfontein	66¾			
1036½	656¼	Driefontein	938¾	-15	5.0	12.4
941¼	527¼	Durban	631¼	-3¾		
302¼	107	E Rand Gold	155¼	-12¼	13.5	5.0
122½	52½	E Rand Prop	77			
75	45	Eastern Trans	70		3.4	16.5
513	300½	Elandsrand	392½	+½	4.2	8.9
447½	320	Emp China C	371	+12	5.5	17.9
1259	741½	FS Cons	948½	-10½	6.2	11.4
82	27	FS Dev	60			
2035	1193¾	GFSA	1862½		2.1	27.1
85¾	45	GM Kalgoorlie	61		3.8	17.8
239½	168½	Gencor	229½	+½	1.2	27.7
128	75	Gold Fields Prop▼	118		8.0	
22	14	Greenwich R 'A'	15½			
202	105½	Grootvlei	160	-3½	6.1	8.2
95½	67	Gwalia Cons	88½	+½	1.1	10.1
687½	319¾	Harmony	604	+30		
453	268¾	Hartbst	283½	-7¼	9.6	8.7
1562½	831¼	Impala Plat	1562½	+18¾	1.6	47.2
239	115	Kiesom	125	+3	9.6	11.3
1315¾	893¾	Kinross	1087½		4.5	14.8
1096¼	565¾	Kloof	922½	-2½	4.0	8.2
137	65¾	Leslie	110	+½	9.9	6.3
382½	179½	Loraine	231½	-15¼		
21	17	Maneuscom	21			
3	2½	Masasa	3			
162	102	MIM	111		2.3	...
1752½	1465½	Minorco	1475		2.5	...
324	169	Monarch	173	+1		
262½	83	NBH	92			8.6
277½	146½	Nth Kalgurli	171		3.2	23.7
94	45	Oryx Gold	50			
101	55	Palamexns	64	-1		
463	250	Peko Tin	260	-5	0.5	...
199	123½	Pucer Pac	152			
425	317	RJB	#349		4.4	16.8
905	753	RTZ	833	-3	3.7	23.7
49	31	Randwest	31			
650	167¾	Rand Mines	650		1.8	56.7
840¼	547½	Randfontein	720½	-11¼	6.9	8.0
295	207	Renison	240			
1859¾	1078¼	Rustenburg	1706¼	+15¾	1.8	*
112	56	St Barbara	67	-1		
756	503¾	St Helena	615	-3¾	7.2	...
290	195	Sons Gwalia	230		5.5	14.1
51	16	Sthern Pacific	21			
2887½	1454¾	Southvaal	1803¾	+34¾	4.9	20.5
5	4½	Sterron	4¼			
143	73	Stilfontein	75¾		28.8	2.5
281½	50	Unisel	180½	+4¾	3.4	13.6
7660	4943¾	Vaal Reefs	5665¾	-9¾	4.6	9.1
33	7½	Wankie Col	12		10.3	2.9
545	450	Watts Blake	533		2.9	20.1
1213½	568¾	Western Areas	1120¾	-2½	4.7	14.2
3575	2050	Western Deep	2571¼	-43¾	4.1	8.7
396	300¼	Western Mng	373		1.1	54.5
1225	603¾	Winkels	890¾		5.4	12.2
66	47	Zambia Copper	48	-5		
58	48	Zandpan	48		9.4	10.8

OIL & GAS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
44	34½	Aran Energy	43	-½		26.0
53	35	Arcon Intl	40			
74¼	51½	Aus Oil & Gas	57½	+½		
68	43	Aviva Pet	51	-1		
249	197	Br Borneo	224		4.0	10.5
358	253	British Gas	315	+4½	5.8	..
437½	340	Br Petroleum†	431	+1	2.8	23.6
4	1¾	Bula Resources	2½			
919	783	Burmah Castrl†	805	+6	4.3	18.0
88	56	Cairn Energy	82			45.2
375	258	Calor Gp†	267	+1	5.9	12.9
51	33	Clyde Pet	38	-1	1.3	..
30	9½	Copley Res	11	-½		
2½	1½	Dragon Oil	2¼			
27½	17	Edin Oil & Gs	21½			23.2
486	370	Enterprise	394	+2	5.1	..
27	21	Fairhaven Intl	27		4.5	11.0
303	263	Flogas†	280		5.8	11.6
8¼	4¼	Fortune	5¼			33.5
77	54	Goal Pet	64	+1	2.8	21.3
47	31	Gr Western Res	41			
177	136	Hardy O & G	139		0.9	17.8
55	40	Kelt Energy	52		3.2	30.9
169	110½	Lasmo	144	+¼	0.9	..
73	48	Lasmo Units	52		18.8	
75	55	Monument	65			69.5
7½	3½	New London	7½			
2540¾	1912¾	Norsk Hydro	2531½	+18¾	1.3	*
9½	3¼	Oceanics	4¾			
50	36	Oil Search	47	+2		
50½	17½	Petroz	36½	+3		
168	140	Pict Pet	157			
32½	21	Premier	25			13.6
158	43	Presidio	43		15.5	..
111	83	Pittencrieff Rs	88			
282	129	Ramco Egy	200		0.3	..
463	335	Ranger	387	+4	5.4	
7700	6681¼	Royal Dtch Pt	6996¾	-81¼	4.6	18.2
4084¾	3368¾	Schlumberger	3368¾	-18¾	2.4	
68	43	Scott Pickford	48		2.3	9.2
90	50	Seafield	87			
758	651	Shell	704	+7	4.4	21.3
187	116	Sunrise Eng Sv	#116			
4237½	3481¼	Total	3868¾	-21¼	4.6	*
10	9½	Villiers Grp	9½			
241	178½	Woodside	239		1.7	..
110	28	XCL	47	-2		...

OTHER FINANCIAL

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
166	75	BWD	79	+3	6.6	6.5
126	96	Baltic Plc	125	+1	2.0	7.9
185	78	Berry Bch Nbl	78		8.2	11.8
215	152	Boloc Inv	154	+1		
154	108	Brewin Dolphin	114		6.4	8.4
757	620	Caledonia†	633		3.3	17.0
2650	1900	Camellia	2125		1.9	5.7
21½	19	Carlisle	21½	+½	1.5	..
630¼	447	Cater Allen	458		7.7	9.4
174¼	125	Castles	149		4.4	16.7
85	35	Christie	35			77.3
80	60	Clayhithe†	71		4.7	*
18	12	EFG	14		0.9	9.1
71½	45½	EFT Group	62		3.5	13.1
740	513	EFM	732		4.1	21.9
212	150	Exco†	159½	-2½	6.6	4.4
229	157	Gartmore	184	+1	2.7	21.3
515	395	Gerrard Nat	488		6.1	14.1
465	333	Govett	350		5.3	5.7
1209	845	Henderson Adt	1065		5.3	14.8
251½	151	Invesco	167	+1	2.8	27.4
50	37	Investment Co†	43		5.1	13.7
250	185	Ivory Smart†	222½	-1½	4.2	17.3
317	193½	Jardine Strat	221½	-5½	3.8	8.7
432	103	Johnson Fry	136	+1	1.4	4.3
170	103	King Shaxson†	103		10.9	10.2
245	136	Lon Forfaiting	161		7.2	10.1
120	95	Lon Scot Bk	119		3.8	18.1
1243	794	M & G†	978	-10	3.8	16.9
323	218	MAI	224		4.4	12.2
117½	85½	MAI 5.9% Cv Pft	88½			
770	538	MAM	708	-1	4.1	16.5
25½	8½	Nat Home Loan	15¾			
1268	970	Perpetual†	1168	+3	3.7	12.6
573	415	Provident	544	+5	4.1	17.3
365	245	Rathbone Bs	245		4.3	12.1
34	21½	Rutland Tst	26¼		4.2	13.4
368	281½	S & U	300	-1	4.6	9.8
425	163	Sharelink	187	+3	6.7	6.2
188	108	SJP Capital	110	-1	3.4	7.8
486	324	Smith New Ct	440	-1	2.9	3.7
684	353	Swire Pacic 'A'	400½	-½	2.4	..
224	78	Towry Law	79		7.1	6.8
66	23	Trio Hldgs	25		0.5	11.3
199	87	Union	92		6.1	8.5
31	20	Western Selecta	25		1.2	..

PHARMACEUTICALS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
615	311½	Brit Biotech	549	...	...	...
488	343	Cantab Pharms	345			
243	191	Celltech	236			
151	86	Chiroscience	97			
47	36	Cortecs	38			
157	107	Fisons†	110		3.1	...
725	520	Glaxo	664	-9	5.1	16.0
185	95½	Grampian Hdg	100		6.9	10.5
187	120	Medeva	166	-1	3.2	13.5
3	1½	Premier Health	1½			
330	227	Quality Care	253		2.2	14.7
295	242	Scotia	274			
83	44	Shield Diag	58			
473	357½	SmithKline†	486		3.3	18.1
440	322	SmKline Uts	433		3.6	16.9
731	498	Wellcome	703	-2	3.1	16.0
900	672	Zeneca	882	-1	3.0	17.7

PRINTING & PAPER

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
184	122	AG Holdings†	126		5.5	11.9
444	335	API†	379	-2	3.0	*
316	234½	Arjo Wiggins	240	+1	3.4	36.2
205	145	Aspen Coms	165		3.8	18.8
472	347	Bemrose	371		4.2	13.3
171	97	Blagden	103		1.8	48.2
524	409	Bowater	430	+4	3.8	16.1
1885¾	1378¾	Bowater Inc†	1771¼	+18¾		
297	242	Boxmore Intl	260		2.0	15.9
515	435	Br Polythene	500	+1	3.1	17.5
176	30	Br Thornton	32	+2	18.1	2.7
180½	117	Brunton Gp	117		2.7	17.2
185	139	Bunzl†	173	+1	3.0	20.3
198	129	Capital Inds	144		3.9	11.3
2446¾	1890¾	Carraud Md	2178¾	-50	2.2	16.9
439	282	Cropper (James)†	282		1.6	14.8
1035	825	De La Rue†	949	+16	2.8	17.2
114	78	Delyn Group	80		3.6	14.5
137	103	Dolphin Pack	103		5.5	13.2
101	75	Fairway Group	93		4.6	17.4
430	302	Ferguson Intl	303		3.3	12.2
145	120	Ferry Pick	121		5.9	..
30	1¾	Hunterprint	2			
230	150	Inveresk	157		4.0	9.4
286	248	James Porter▼	280		2.4	18.3
438	364	Low & Bonar	389	+1	3.2	15.9
68	44½	MY Holdings▼	52		3.8	12.4
271	223	Macfarlane	257		2.0	20.7
250	148	Phyart	169		5.4	23.3
1040	513	Portals†	1030	+10	2.0	27.9
412	314	St Ives Gp	326	+1	2.5	17.6
1153½	464½	Sappi	1141	+16	0.5	..
30½	9½	Senit	9½			
351½	185	Shikart	303		6.8	..
573	398	Smith Cawdt	506	+1	3.0	*
420¼	274½	Smurfit (Jeff)▼	373		1.5	53.2
119	82	Stocklet	97		3.6	10.4
45	18½	Utd Group	34			
270	182	Wace	242	+9	3.1	15.4
291	209	Waddington (J)†	212		5.1	10.4
511	365	Watmough	413		2.1	36.1
149	98	Wyndeham	139		2.6	17.7

PROPERTY

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
130	91	Allied Lon†	92		5.3	11.8
276	253	Argent	261			
90	63	Artesian Ests	75	+1		
144	108	Asis	112	-1	2.5	19.9
382½	233	Bilton	251	+5	4.8	18.2
283	206	Baltyt	213		4.0	15.7
39½	14	Bolton Gp	15			45.8
102	70	Bourne End	72		1.3	
276	170	Bradford†	185	+1	4.6	15.8
137	103	Brightstone	123		3.8	27.9
474	343	Br Land†	382	-1	2.5	38.3
276	168	Brixton	174	-4	5.8	15.5
118	86½	Burford	90		2.2	29.2
112	96	CLS Hldgs	99		6.2	..
207½	125¾	Cap & Regnl	137		1.5	31.8
239	191	Cap Shop Ctrs	208	+1	3.9	48.6
325	203	Cardiff Prop	228		1.4	51.0
36	24½	Cathay Intl	24½			
185	152	Chesterfield	160		1.9	54.3
678	413	Chesterfield†	432		3.6	19.4
112	86	Chesterton Int	88		4.7	12.4
84	36	City Site Ests	52			10.4
12¼	5½	Clarke Nickolls	6		2.1	12.5
87½	71¼	Compco	77½		6.3	..
56	28	Conrad Ritblt GS	29		2.2	25.4
1755	1195	Daejan	1200		3.0	14.8
25½	5	Dares Estates	10	+1		
17	4	De Morgan	#5½			
156	85	Debenham Twsn	95		4.6	15.4
189	161	Dencora	183		2.5	45.6
347¼	240	Derwent Hldgs	242	+2	2.4	21.6
41	17	Development Sec	19		0.7	..
51	45	Dwyer	46	+1	2.1	
53	25	Elecs	31			
460	275	Estates Agency†	350		4.6	
47	18	Estates Gen	28½			
132	97	Evans Of Leeds†	112	+7	2.9	18.7
43½	23	Ex-Lands	24		2.2	..
80	64	Fiscal Prop	65		1.2	..
37	23½	Five Oaks	25		2.5	10.5
78	32	Fletcher King	32		6.0	15.6
51	38	Folkes Group	44			
51	36	Folkes Group nv	41		4.6	23.3
535	407	Frogmore	432		5.0	15.2
325	228	Grainger†	243		3.0	*
260	167½	Gr Portland†	186	+2	5.5	31.8
226½	118	Greycoat	123		0.6	
94	36½	Hambro Cntyw	38½		0.8	39.1
435	298	Hammerson	351	+1	3.6	35.2
390	298	Helical Bar	318		2.4	11.4
40½	29½	Hemingway	29		1.7	49.8
78	20	Herring Baker	28		6.2	
75	45	High-Point†	45		1.4	
369	123½	HK Land	138¾	+¾	5.0	
311½	136½	Jermyn	154			77.1
792	543	Land Sect	602	-2	5.0	17.2
16	8	Lon & Metro	8			0.3
122	86	Lon Merch Sec†	95		5.5	14.0
562	353	MEPC†	391	-4	6.4	21.3
13½	6	McInerney A	6½			
190	164	McKay Secs	167		3.9	16.5
85	55	Mendale	65		3.8	10.4
55	27	Moorfield Est	30		4.2	..
1425	1125	Mountview	1125		2.5	8.7
196	144	Mucklow (A&J)†	148		5.3	19.7
2½	¼	ORB	¼			1.0
64	29	Olives Prop	32			11.9
191	135½	PSIT	136		4.3	19.2
399	218	Peel	237		2.4	45.0
162	138	Pillar Prop	148		3.1	..
12½	2½	Power Corp	2½			
9¼	4½	Premier Land	6½	+¼		
77	56	RPS Group	70		4.6	12.6
53	31	Raglan	32			7.8
40	23½	Regalian	28	+½		6.9
180	140	Rowlinson Secs†	160		1.5	10.2
134	97	Rugby Est	98		2.9	
64	45	St Modwen Prp	48½		3.1	12.1
78	59	Saville Grdn (J)	62	+2	5.4	18.1
100	53	Smolls	55		5.1	8.9
108	64	Scot Metr†	72		3.5	8.4
135	86	Shaftesbury†	86		1.5	
307	207½	Slough Estates	241	+3	4.2	51.5
103	50	Southend Prop†	55		5.5	
133	100	Speccty Shops	103		2.9	
50	5	Stanhope Pps	#8			
39½	34	TBF	39½	+½		1.8
244	163	Tops Ests	163		1.7	41.3
130½	92¼	Town Centre†	99		3.8	18.3
107	81	Trafford Park	84	+1	4.7	
29½	15	Trencherwood	23			
58	28	UK Land	39			
317	212	Warner	214		6.5	20.8
260	218	Warnford	225		4.4	18.4
7½	1¼	Waterglade	#2			
103½	62	Wates	72	+1		
45	29	Whinney Mick	35	-1		
105	61	Wood John D	65		3.8	*
30	15	YRM	16			

RETAILERS, FOOD

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
68	50½	ASDA Group	66½	+½	3.5	15.1
315	222½	Argyll†	267	+5	5.5	11.4
505	413	Brake Bros†	456		2.0	16.4
43	24	Budgen	25		5.0	15.9
17	11¼	Cullens	13¼			
137	66	Dairy Farm Int	71½	+½	5.2	9.6
394	344	Farepak	350		2.4	19.9
60	37	Fitzwilton†	40		11.3	..
108	87	Fyffes	98		1.8	16.8
371	165	Geest†	171		6.9	..
1078	663	Greggs	1068	+3	2.2	20.0
402	325	Greencore	402	+2	3.3	..
211	133	Iceland Group	149		3.3	9.3
656	523	Kwik Save†	554	+4	4.3	10.0
18	9	Merchant Retail	11½			
149	99	Morrison (W)	142	+1	0.9	16.6
232	161	Nurdin Peack	182	+1	5.1	8.0
146	89½	Park Foods	123		2.4	24.9
5¾	1½	Regina Hlth	1½			
480	343	Sainsbury J†	412	+8	3.3	14.6
255	200½	Tesco	248	+4	4.0	12.4
198	162	Thorntons	172		3.6	14.1
422	278	Watson & Philip	363		5.0	14.7

RETAILERS, GENERAL

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
80	25	Alexon	31			
248	199	Allders	207		4.1	*
410	307	Argos Plc	351	+2	3.0	18.5
102	54½	Ashley (Laura)	77		0.2	
357	129	Asprey†	139		5.4	11.5
246	176	Austin Reed	207	-1	3.3	10.4
168	132	Beattie (J) 'A'	133		5.8	17.4
150	110	Bentalls	119		2.1	41.2
165	38	Betterware†	51		6.9	5.5
48	29	Blacks Leis†	35		8.0	
384	181	Body Shop†	191	+9	1.4	16.8
601	450½	Boots†	506	+9	3.8	16.1
12¼	1¼	Brown & Jackson	2	+¼		
263	205	Brown (N)†	215		2.5	19.1
74½	51	Burton	68		3.7	33.0
245	148	Castors	148		3.4	*
304	230	Carpetright	235		3.7	19.7
246	152	Chelsea Int	177	+1	1.4	31.3
520	388	Church	480		3.4	24.4
171	95	Clinton Cards	95		6.2	13.8
170	84	C'wy Cainulis	86		6.2	24.7
903	720	Courts Fornish	805		0.5	40.9
210	155	Crown Eye†	185		6.8	6.0
353	245	DFS Furniture	272		3.3	*
287	170	Dixons Grp	192	+4	4.3	20.4
580	530	Elys (Wimbldn)	580		3.8	27.2
11½	7½	ERA Gp	9	...	...	...
284	152	Essex Furn	158		3.4	..
326	217	Etam†	234		4.1	13.9
358	257	Fine Art Devt	357		5.1	11.8
68	46	Fired Earth	68			
106	71	Flying Flowers	81		1.7	16.6
278	124	French Conn	255			18.6
384	205	Frost Group	226		3.0	22.8
68	49	Gieves	55		3.3	20.8
136	85	Goldsmiths Gp	133	+6	1.8	23.8
853	495	GUS†	541		3.1	18.5
196	164	Hardys	180	+5	3.1	18.3
31	21	Hampden Grp	25		5.0	72.8
227	173	Hse of Fraser	175	+1	3.6	15.8
95	68½	Hughes (T)†	80		4.0	13.1
778	404	Kingfisher	438	+6	4.3	11.5
236	100	Klenson	119		1.7	*
435	290	Liberty	308		2.0	..
380	277	Lloyds Chem	300	+1	4.5	9.8
184	117	MFI	128½	+4½	4.1	15.6
460½	368½	Marks Spencer†	398	+3	3.8	17.7
680	495	Menzies (John)	500		2.9	12.3
377	238	Moss Bros	339		3.1	13.4
275	214	Next†	257	+2	3.3	15.8
59	20	OEM	27	+1		
97	28	Oliver (G)	95			28.4
113	73	Partridge Fine	78		4.6	10.5
37	12	Partins	14½	-2		
288	155	QS Hldgs	155		4.2	17.8
62	16	Rileg Gp	18		3.8	15.2
280	131	Rosebys	132		4.5	15.4
132	99½	Sears	110	+1	4.2	18.7
46	16½	Signet Group	24	+½		8.2
649	425	Smith WH	475½	+8½	4.0	24.5
1280	698	Sotheby	730		3.8	31.5
252	189	Storehouse†	219	+2	3.3	18.8
184	151½	Stylo	184	+4	1.6	12.6
198	146	T & S Stores	163		4.8	11.6
173	114	The Rack	118		1.9	14.8
63¾	3¼	Upton & South	4¼	+½		
539	384	Vendome†	510	+5	1.9	30.7
70	28	WEW Group	29		3.0	*
93½	52	Wld of Leather	67		1.1	..
195	138	Wyevale	159		3.6	15.8

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
683	528	Allied Domecq†	544		5.2	14.7
459	358	Bulmer (HP)†	386	-3	3.6	22.2
140	105	Burn Stewart	117	+1	5.3	25.7
506	374	Grand Met	412	+3	4.3	18.9
542	421	Guinness	455	+4	3.6	15.6
457	353	Highland Distl	444	+2	2.0	28.3
222	127	Macallan-Glen	211		8.7	55.2
710	365	Macdn Mtn 'A'†	665		1.8	29.3
814	515	Matthew Clark	533		4.2	12.5
250	67	Merydew Wt	69		4.5	..
190	142	Taunton Cider	150	+1	5.7	11.4

SUPPORT SERVICES

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
187	94	ACT Group†	108		6.6	10.5
743	583	ADT	670	-3		..
46	34	Alphameric	40			30.5
140	59	Auto Sec	66	+2		8.6
162	98	BET-Grvr	103		4.2	14.7
195	115	BNB Res	177		3.6	28.7
255	175	BPP	335		4.7	16.4
188	130	BSM	131		6.2	17.1
1½	¼	Black & Edg	¼			
1100	500	Borland	500			
226	159	Brit Data Mgt	178		3.8	..
79	57	Brooks Service	63		3.5	..
117½	79	CRT Gp	79		5.4	19.2
238	156	Capita Group	164		2.1	28.8
423	278	Chubb Sect	282	-2	2.9	17.3
242	105	Compur People	242	+7	1.3	55.7
65	41	Corp Services	62		0.5	23.3
97	48	Coutts Consitg	57	+1	0.9	..
276	212	Davis Service	240		4.2	16.1
83	68	Dudley Jenkins	75		5.4	18.6
154	82	EW Fact	93		6.6	7.0
199½	135	El Data Prc	143		1.8	*
334	261	Hays	285		2.7	18.4
289	182½	Hogg Robinson†	184		5.5	18.1
39	18	Holmes Protecn	25			1.5
15	8	Ind Gm & Data	11			5.8
2696¾	1558¼	ISS B Dkr	1834¾	+6¾	6.4	1.8
185	128	JBA Hldgs	152	+2	2.0	15.5
414	231	Johnson Clean	234		5.8	8.5
145	99	Kalamazoo†	110		3.9	12.4
298	221	Kewill Syst	239		3.8	8.8
35	17	Laser-Scan	17			
143¾	68	LBMS	80			
8	4	Lep	4½			
325	268	Logica	324		1.9	22.8
254	96	MDIS	97		8.1	8.8
200	143	MMT Compt	200		3.2	15.8
216	102	MR Data Mngt	108	+2	6.4	..
723	423	Macro 4	436		5.7	12.3
1865¾	1158¾	Manpower	1812½	+3¾	0.2	..
1320	790	Micro Focus	833	+3		19.1
178	101	Microgen	102		8.9	18.2
548½	408	Misys	409		2.5	*
197	147½	MITIE Gp	197		1.4	23.1
35	22	Nowo Group†	27		0.9	10.4
82	22	OIS Int	24		9.3	4.5
84	60	P & P	74		3.9	18.4
117	65	Michael Page	117		2.5	28.7
143	90	Parity	126		2.2	38.2
235	130	Pegasus	150		4.2	15.1
115	82	Pennat	107		4.7	..
89¾	80¼	Prestbod	70		6.2	12.0
415	290	RCO	305		6.2	10.6
48	27	Radius	38	+2	1.2	..
179	73	Real Time	171		2.9	10.0
177	104	Reed Executive	143		0.9	..
183	105	Reliance Sec	147	-1	4.3	..
279	199½	Rentokil	228		1.7	23.5
184	138	Ricardo Group	140		5.4	17.0
215	147½	Rolfe & Nolan†	179	+2	2.8	22.8
688	507	Sage Gp	669	+4	2.1	*
392	243	Salvesen (C)†	272	+2	3.8	14.1
94	78	Sanderson Elect	80	+1	4.5	11.6
17½	9	Select App	13½			
438	310	Sema Gp	408		1.1	24.8
307	243	Serco Gp	281		1.6	25.6
130	75	Shared Cmp	80			
130	92	Shellshey	93		4.3	15.6
294	172	Stat-Plus	172		6.8	16.3
148	100	Unipalm	117			
31	13	Vistech†	13		3.8	7.1
85	37	WSP Hldgs	43		5.5	26.2
388	297	Wamer Howd†	299		3.3	13.8

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
498	353½	BT†	384½	+2½	5.6	13.7
543	392	Cable Wireless†	390	+5	2.7	16.8
178	108	Filtronic Com	169		0.6	56.9
1543	1146	Securicor	1535		0.2	38.0
1069	785	Securicor 'A'	1002		0.4	24.8
882	686	Security Serv	822		0.9	26.0
221	157½	Vodafone†	211	+2½	1.8	27.3

TEXTILES & APPAREL

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
136	78	Albion	80		5.1	*
230	131	Alexandra W	132		5.5	14.1
617	488	Allied Text	517		3.2	15.9
189	84	Allnut	84		12.1	28.7
45	31	Automagic	34			8.6
270	200	Baird (Wm)†	200		5.6	17.1
71	35	Beckman (A)†	38	+3	11.8	..
280	235	Black (Peter)	235	+6	2.4	16.9
119	74	Bridport-Gndry†	116		3.2	9.6
226	171	Br Mohair	183	-1	5.8	18.8
74	30	Campari	25			
104	80	Cassidy Bros	84		4.1	10.8
193	163	Charnb Phipps†	183	-3	5.0	24.0
380	292	Claremont Gmt	308	+2	3.0	17.1
287	184	Coats Viyella	187		5.5	16.2
593	417	Courtauld Text	462	+3	3.9	20.8
158½	117	Dawson†	119		3.2	..
143	97½	Dewhirst (IJ)	131		1.6	18.5
52	32	Dwide Hed	41		4.3	12.0
52	25	Drummond	26			11.7
35	14	Ebel	14			
80	68	Faupel†	68		9.0	11.5
155	136	Formlastic	148		2.8	*
29	14	Foster (John)	17	+1		
129	94	French (Thmas)	95		4.8	18.8
82	48	Gent SR	72	-1	3.9	*
113	73	Haggas	87	+2	4.3	*
70½	11	Hartstone	18	+½	2.5	..
33	25½	Helene Plct	28		9.7	10.7
263	222	Hicking Pntcst†	234		2.6	16.8
91	63	Honeysuckle†	64		5.9	..
90	48	Horace Small	87		1.4	..
211	173	Jacques Vert	187		3.0	16.5
73	55	Jerome (S)	56		1.8	7.7
388	288	Jones Stroud	343		3.3	16.4
202½	125	Lambert	128		6.7	12.1
485	333	Lamont	342		4.6	11.4
340	265	Leeds†	271		2.9	..
88	61	Leslie Wise Gp	83		7.9	13.3
101	68	Lyles (S)†	81		5.4	8.4
26½	18½	Mariing	26		3.2	..
17	10	PEX	10			
286	158	Parkland†	158		4.0	9.4
123	84	Pentland	102		3.4	21.2
75	53	Pittards†	57		3.3	..
112	59	Readicut†	60½		7.1	10.2
90	65	Remont†	85		5.4	6.9
96	38	Richards	50	+2	5.1	*
70	42	SEET	57	+1		
180	80	Sherwood Gp	83		4.6	8.6
180	137½	Shiloh	140		3.1	8.5
146	98	Sirdar	103		6.6	14.9
64	50	Stirling Grp	54		4.5	14.9
28	19	Strong & Fisher	20		6.2	13.7
69	40	UK Safety	40		8.1	9.8
132	105	Usher (Frank)	115		7.6	8.8
65	34	Vtex	65		2.4	16.8
110	42	Wensum	110		3.3	16.9
289	239	Yorklyde	250		3.1	11.5

TRANSPORT

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
83	58	Air London	63		6.9	12.0
777¼	619½	All Nippon Air	703	-10	0.3	..
313½	228	Assoc Br Ports	276	+1½	2.2	22.0
541½	440	BAA†	474	+1	2.5	18.5
132	103½	Badgerline	132	+3	3.9	..
495½	344	Br Airways†	361	+5	4.0	9.8
79	27	Central Tran R	33			
108	75	Clarkson (H)	94		2.3	23.6
179	140	Dart†	151		3.2	14.6
592¾	195	Eurotunnel Uts	285	+2		
87	50	Fisher (James)	50			
509	405	Forth Ports	466		2.1	31.7
236	158	GRT Bus†	230		2.1	17.8
166	113	Go-Ahead	168		3.0	28.6
209	125	Goode Durrant	199		3.8	15.8
155	128½	IoM Steam	137		4.0	10.4
71	35	Jacobs (JI)	68	-1	3.0	..
111	75	Lon O'Seas Frgt	75	-2	6.6	17
534	368	Mersey Docks	400		3.0	19.4
291	145	NFC†	171	+4	5.3	42.5
347	245	Natl Express	281		3.3	16.8
348	244	Ocean Group	281	+1	8.4	14.2
91	58	Ocean Wilson	68		5.9	8.9
743	587	P & O Dfd	612	+1	6.2	16.9
209	153	P & O 5.5%	182	-6	3.8	..
102	84	Seacon	92	-1	3.2	28.9
232	158	Stagecoach	225		2.4	22.2
131	85½	TNT	102			
915	703	Tibbett & Britn	710		2.6	18.2
327	197	TDG	210		5.7	14.3
136	98	Ugland†	127		2.4	..
168	75	Utd Carriers	94		2.1	..

WATER

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
607	442	Anglian†	518	+8	5.7	11.7
365	293	Mid Kent Hdgs†	298		4.9	10.1
611	454	North West†	552	+14	5.4	7.9
751	508	Northumbrian†	728	+11	4.4	7.8
645	457	Severn Trent†	540	+7	5.4	7.6
1865	1525	South Staffs†	1850	+5	3.7	41.2
675	450	South West†	513	+2	6.4	7.8
682	466	Southern	582	+9	5.2	8.3
611	434½	Thames†	492	+9	5.9	7.4
744	546	Welsh†	667	+12	4.9	7.3
379¾	261	Wessex	301	+1	5.1	7.9
830	458	Yorkshire†	523	+16	5.6	7.7

Source: Fintel

© USM. # Price at suspension. † Ex dividend. ‡ Ex scrip. ▲ Ex rights issue. ▼ Ex all. § Ex capital distribution. * Figures or report awaited. .. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 index.



BRITISH FUNDS

1994 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
107	100	Treas 12% 1995	100	-	11.94	6.11
103	97	Gas 3% 1990-95	98	...	3.03	6.23
107	102	Exch 10¼% 1995	102	-	10.05	6.71
113	105	Treas 12¾% 1995	105		12.14	6.85
117	107	Treas 14% 1996	107 †	-	13.08	7.02
121	109	Treas 15¼% 1996	109	-	13.87	7.40
117	107	Exch 13¼% 1996	107	-	12.33	7.45
112	103	Conv 10% 1996	103		9.65	7.87
121	109	Treas 13¼% 1997	109 †	-	12.05	7.99
114	104	Exch 10½% 1997	104	-	10.03	8.04
110	100	Treas 8¾% 1997	101	...	8.63	8.16
131	116	Exch 15% 1997	116	-	12.87	8.31
114	102	Exch 9¾% 1998	103 †	+	9.40	8.36
108	95	Treas 7¼% 1998	96	+	7.48	8.34
102	93	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	95	+	7.07	8.33
131	115	Treas 14% 1998-01	116	+	12.07	8.49
140	122	Treas 15½% 1998	122	+	12.65	8.39
125	110	Exch 12% 1998	111		10.78	8.52
116	101	Treas 9½% 1999	103 †	+	9.17	8.43
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
128	111	Exch 12¼% 1999	112	-	10.85	8.56
121	109	Treas 10½% 1999	107		9.78	8.48
101	88	Treas 6% 1999	90	+	6.61	8.46
121	104	Conv 10¼% 1999	106	...	9.60	8.53
116	99	Conv 9% 2000	102	+	8.81	8.48
136	116	Treas 13% 2000	119 †	...	10.92	8.62
122	103	Treas 10% 2001	106	+	9.40	8.63
106	89	Treas 7% 2001	92	+	7.60	8.53
123	102	Treas 9¾% 2002	106	+	9.18	8.63
113	92	Treas 8% 2003	96	+	8.27	8.55
127	104	Treas 10% 2003	108	+	9.23	8.61
129	109	Treas 11½% 2001-04	112	-	10.19	8.76
86	69	Fund 3½% 1999-04	74 †	+	4.68	7.21
125	101	Conv 9½% 2004	106	+	8.94	8.54
105	84	Treas 6¾% 2004	88	+	7.61	8.45
125	102	Conv 9½% 2005	106	+	8.91	8.51
147	118	Treas 12½% 2003-05	122	-	10.21	8.81
112	90	Treas 7¾% 2006	95	+	8.16	8.43
111	91	Treas 8% 2002-06	96	+	8.31	8.51
136	112	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	116 †	+	10.08	8.83
119	95	Treas 8½% 2007	100 †	+	8.47	8.45
151	124	Treas 13½% 2004-08	129	+	10.44	8.81
124	99	Treas 9% 2008	104	+	8.61	8.44
LONGS (over 15 years)						
115	91	Treas 8% 2009	96	+	8.29	8.43
136	108	Conv 9% 2011	105 †	+	8.54	8.40
127	100	Treas 9% 2012	105	+	8.53	8.38
93	71	Treas 5½% 2008-12	75	+	7.27	8.14
117	92	Treas 8% 2013	96	+	8.26	8.33
114	89	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	94 †	+	8.21	8.35
139	99	Treas 8¾% 2017	104	+	8.38	8.31
159½	126	Exch 12% 2013-17	132	+	9.08	8.54
UNDATED						
54	39	War Ln 3½%	42	+	8.33	..
37	27	Treas 2½%	29½	-	8.47	..
INDEX-LINKED						
203	197	Treas IL 2% 1996	201		2.55	4.08
113	106	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	106		2.85	3.82
176	163	Treas IL 2½% 2001	166	+	3.36	3.80
173	159	Treas IL 2½% 2003	162	+	3.47	3.82
118	107	Treas IL 4⅝% 2004	109	+	3.47	3.80
184	165	Treas IL 2% 2006	169 †	+	3.54	3.80
168	149	Treas IL 2½% 2009	153	+	3.59	3.82
175	154	Treas IL 2½% 2011	159	+	3.63	3.83
146	126	Treas IL 2½% 2013	130	+	3.64	3.82
157	134	Treas IL 2½% 2016	139 †	-	3.67	3.84
152	128	Treas IL 2½% 2020	133	-	3.70	3.85
129	106	Treas IL 2½% 2024	111 †	-	3.69	3.82
128	105	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	110 †	+	3.72	3.86

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
(0353) 289 7803				
Gresham Abbey	156.80	165.60†		0.77
Gresham Equity	229.70	244.30		1.23
Gresham Euro	195.70	207.10		0.41
Gresham Gold Bal	103.60	113.60		3.66
Gresham Gilt	72.40	74.74		5.18
Gresham Japan	175.30	185.50†		
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
0293 563 231				
Growth Acc	549.70	582.90		2.79
General Inc	458.30	487.60†		3.75
Un. Growth Acc	350.00	372.40		2.68
Int Growth Inc	331.60	354.90		2.88
Higher Inc Acc	658.30	700.40		4.63
Higher Inc Inc	370.60	394.40		4.63
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	181.70	192.60		9.06
Gilt/Fxd Int Inc	85.35	90.35†		9.06
Nth America	248.60	264.50		
Pac Exot	352.90	375.50		0.06
Europe	259.50	276.10		0.69
Int Exotn	99.75	73.67†		3.04
Bal Property Acc	99.17	105.50		4.85
Bal Property Inc	77.27	82.25		4.85
Global Opps	81.79	86.49†		0.22
Balanced Acc	92.67	98.75		3.62
Balanced Inc	51.84	55.15		3.62
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
High Income	126.50	134.20†		7.65
Gilts & Fixed Int	157.10	166.60		4.68
Worldwide Bond	256.40	274.30†		5.63
Capital Growth				
American Growth	272.60	292.40		78
Asian Pacific	349.40	389.80		
Assets & Earnings	251.40	267.40†		2.92
Country & Energy	168.60	177.70		
Euro Capital Inc	170.70	181.70		.71
(Accum Units)	138.90	146.49		.70
Financial	218.40	232.30		2.34
Japan	129.80	137.30		
Neartrack	132.10	140.30		1.53
UK Growth Dist	144.30	152.20		2.66
US Emerging Cos	128.90	137.50		
Income & Growth	378.30	393.90†		3.17
Ethical	89.65	89.84		3.05
International	114.40	121.70		.26
Dividend & Growth	58.15	62.00		4.47
Global Growth & Inc	66.14	70.57		2.61
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
031 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	178.12	216.78		
ADVANCE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 699				
Accur Inc & Growth	42.75	44.36	+ 0.22	0.70
Cash	50.15	50.15†	+ 0.03	4.45
Deposit	105.60	111.60		
Equity Income	940.40	210.00	+ 0.00	1.84
Extra Income #	47.54	50.01†	+ 0.11	6.03
Far East Emrg Eqn	112.90	119.90	+ 0.80	0.52
Fixed Interest #	92.16	93.26†	+ 0.04	8.83
Fund Inv Tst	170.20	179.10	+ 0.10	0.94
Japan	185.60	194.40	+ 1.30	
Latin American	56.00	60.88	- 2.97	0.80
Pacific	72.22	76.31	+ 0.46	0.35
Property Shares	62.25	65.34	+ 0.09	2.08
UK Emerging Cos	61.19	64.23	+ 0.01	0.00
UK Growth	42.94	45.69	+ 0.26	2.56
Abor World Pen #	70.87	71.32†	+ 0.44	2.76
Ethical	58.98	62.66†	+ 0.31	2.88
Aberdeen Gil Inc #	48.80	48.80†	+ 0.05	7.69
AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
031 549 3232				
Britain Growth	67.20	71.49†		2.72
British Income	77.61	82.57†		3.44
Select Portfolio	82.21	87.46†		
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
0452 305 958				
Annty Income	73.06	77.52	+ 0.32	2.67
Income Builder Inc	68.15	70.37†	+ 0.40	3.01
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
IFA Hlp: 0793 610 366 Client Hlp: 0793 514 514				
Extended Trusts				
Growth & Income	220.86	236.00	+ 0.69	3.31
Capital	388.70	416.50	+ 1.60	1.99
Balanced	662.60	697.60†	+ 1.20	2.85
Accumulation	212.05	212.86	+ 5.00	3.15
Income Trusts				
Financial Income	45.78	48.93	- 0.09	3.64
High Income	375.70	401.80	+ 0.50	3.94
Equity Income	215.40	230.50	+ 0.30	3.62
High Yield	230.10	245.80	+ 0.40	3.53
Govt Securities	32.71	34.53†	+ 0.07	6.14
International Trusts				
Asset Spec Sits	135.70	145.00	+ 0.10	0.48
European Growth	33.08	35.34	+ 0.06	0.01
International	157.50	168.30	+ 0.30	0.29
Japan	213.50	227.30†	+ 0.80	0.01
Pacific	338.70	426.20†	+ 8.50	0.01
Seas of America	402.50	428.30†	+ 1.20	0.54
Worldw Asset Val	46.83	50.06	+ 0.24	
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	486.60	520.80†	+ 1.60	2.40
Cons & Gilt	42.15	45.05	+ 0.10	5.15
Smaller Cos	169.30	171.30		1.30
2nd Smaller Cos	152.20	162.70	+ 0.20	1.49
Recovery	128.80	137.60	+ 0.10	1.90
Mid Mkt & Cap	146.20	156.40	+ 0.20	0.75
Ocean Earnings	331.50	354.30†	+ 1.10	1.90
Technology	160.70	171.70	+ 2.40	0.01
UK Special Sits	425.40	454.70	+ 1.70	1.90
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0293 536 911				
Cabinet Gilt Fixed	83.06	96.68		1.45
Financial Fixed Fixed	59.53	61.84		4.69
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 600 0033				
Capital	69.17	73.59	+ 0.58	1.90
International	62.58	66.58	+ 0.85	
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
031 222 4242				
America	278.30	291.00	+ 3.60	
Bond	111.06	118.96	+ 0.76	7.12
Bnt Smlr Cos	98.13	101.30	+ 0.10	1.50
Conv & Exch #	64.16	68.39†	+ 0.69	5.49
Energy				
Europe	212.68	226.80†	- 0.60	0.51
Extn Smlr Cos	46.57	103.10†	+ 0.26	0.42
Far East Inc	324.60	344.90†	+ 1.60	4.48
Japan	327.20	347.50	+ 3.50	
Pacific	102.10	108.80	+ 0.10	0.73
UK Smlr Cos	50.22	53.43	+ 0.04	1.29
Japan Fd	740.00	761.90	+ 5.80	
Mngd Fd	168.60	179.30	+ 0.80	2.62
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
071 488 6873				
Bnt & Overs	272.80	287.20		1.28
Capital Exmt	105.10	110.59		2.43
Weldr Dpst	177.00	186.30		0.44
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
081 534 5544				
Balanced Trusts				
Blnc Inv Fd Inc	331.80	345.70	+ 2.30	3.05
European Bd Inc	88.46	91.57	+ 0.10	7.71
Exempt	70.84	75.56	+ 0.46	4.37
Financial	69.89	74.79†	+ 0.35	3.06
500.0	424.90	454.40	+ 1.9	2.57
General	262.40	281.70	+ 1.40	2.77
Property	248.70	263.90†		5.01
Trustee	177.20	184.20†	+ 0.80	2.49
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.00	100.00†	- 0.00	4.94
Extra Income	172.30	180.00†	+ 0.00	7.54
Gilt & Fxd Int	86.62	97.90†	+ 0.07	8.91
Income	505.30	541.50	+ 2.70	4.18
Income Builder	61.21	63.31	+ 0.31	4.92
Intl Income	99.77	63.59†	+ 0.05	3.89
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	113.10	120.60	+ 0.70	2.66
Unicorn	117.00	125.20	+ 0.40	1.54
Recovery	397.30	425.00	+ 2.60	2.80
Smlr Cos Inc	41.41	44.41	+ 0.06	4.83
Special Sits	268.20	286.80	+ 1.40	1.52
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	121.00	128.40†	+ 0.50	0.40
Asst Acc	250.50	268.50	+ 3.50	2.28
Asst Inc	154.10	164.00†	+ 2.30	3.26
Euro Smlr Inc	144.90	153.70	+ 0.60	0.64
(Accum Units)	135.10	164.50	+ 0.70	0.64
Japan & Eam Inc	182.30	193.10	+ 2.0	
(Accum Units)	184.40	195.30	+ 2.0	
Junior Mkts	83.85	88.82	+ 1.08	
Unn Tech Inc	77.17	82.00	+ 0.35	0.12
Worldwide	164.30	174.40	+ 0.70	0.76
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
081 656 6000				
American Growth	89.86	95.46	+ 0.28	
Amer Smlr Cos	125.30	134.30	+ 3.10	
Convertibles	53.57	57.25†	+ 0.15	5.76
Eastern	286.50	304.00		0.10
Equity Income	85.72	91.19	+ 0.45	4.98
European Growth	284.50	301.50	- 0.40	1.00
Europe	207.60	221.10†	+ 0.30	0.60
Gensar Growth	69.53	73.97	+ 0.30	0.10
Global Bond	61.89	65.19	+ 0.12	6.40
Global Growth	121.50	129.60	+ 0.10	
Japan Growth	204.30	218.00	+ 0.70	
Japan Smlr Cos	176.90	189.40	+ 2.00	
Korea Trust	89.34	95.68	+ 1.14	
Pacific	126.70	135.60	+ 0.40	1.80
Recovery	231.10	247.40	+ 0.70	1.80
UK Growth	81.10	86.27	+ 0.63	1.40
UK Smaller Cos	93.06	99.63	+ 0.25	1.85
Select Managers	71.73	76.84	+ 0.32	3.10
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
071 250 3000				
Intl Growth Fnd Inc	74.63	79.26		
Special Opport Inc	69.82	57.04		
BROWN DOLPHIN UT MGRS LTD				
071 236 6441				
Capital Exmt	165.10	176.80	+ 0.90	1.59
Dividend	82.65	88.48	- 0.05	3.98
Int Gth & Inc	207.70	222.10	+ 1.20	3.47
Un & Gen	43.17	46.17	+ 0.08	1.91
Fund of Funds	81.71	86.60	+ 0.91	
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD				
081 223 8020				
Balanced Growth	161.16	167.05	+ 0.55	1.78
(Accum Units)	153.71	159.33	+ 0.75	1.78
Smaller Cos	95.50	102.12†	+ 0.36	1.33
Higher Yield #	43.14	45.65	+ 0.21	4.83
American Gth Inc	70.05	74.14	+ 0.31	
European Growth	138.68	146.29	+ 0.69	0.05
(Accum Units)	138.26	141.01	+ 1.00	0.05
Global Bond Inc #	29.07	27.53†	+ 0.08	6.99
Mngd Profile Inc	40.81	43.17	+ 0.25	1.63
(Accum Units)	41.39	43.78	+ 0.27	1.63
Jnt Spec Opps	111.95	118.48	+ 0.53	0.44
Pacific Gth	128.73	134.11	+ 0.82	
Property Inc				
UK Emerging Cos	61.19	64.73	+ 0.09	2.08
UK Growth	42.94	45.69	+ 0.26	2.56
Abor World Pen #	70.87	71.32†	+ 0.44	2.76
Ethical	58.98	62.66†	+ 0.31	2.88
Aberdeen Gil Inc #	48.80	48.80†	+ 0.05	7.69
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
071 489 7815				
Start Dated Gilt	84.59	85.43	+ 0.01	6.30
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
061 837 5080				
Balanced	145.30	155.70†	+ 0.50	1.75
UK Growth	160.20	170.50	+ 1.00	2.36
UK Income	137.80	135.80	+ 0.50	4.44
CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0707 651 122				
Can Exe Dist	181.40	192.30	+ 1.20	2.05
-do- Income Dist	109.80	111.20	+ 0.50	4.50
(Accum Units)	318.50	335.50	+ 1.50	4.50
Gilt & Fxd Int	39.58	41.93	+ 0.07	8.49
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
081 394 5988 Exc: 081 398 5885 Dlg: 081 394 5982				
American & Gen	143.00	152.20	+ 0.10	
European Inc	74.39	78.92	- 0.07	0.42
Smaller Cos (4-1)	75.98	80.63	+ 0.17	1.88
Sterling	486.40	486.00	+ 2.20	2.27
Income & Growth	391.40	416.40	+ 1.10	3.98
(Accum Units)	548.90	585.10	+ 7.30	3.98
Japan & Gen	25.29	26.82	+ 0.05	
Master Portfolio	60.90	[183.80]	+35.00	1.97
(Accum Units)	[118.75	[125.50	+45.00	1.97
Special Sits	92.12	98.00	+ 0.47	2.32
High Yield	[12.51	[12.90†	+ 9.00	4.52
For Capital House see Rexton				
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
071 606 0700				
Cazenove Portfolio	89.67	96.04	+ 0.31	2.31
Arencash Portfolio	96.67	[1.521	+ 0.48	1.52

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
European Portfolio	90.68	95.65	+ 0.30	0.89
Japanese Portfolio	67.05	71.20	+ 0.43	
Pacific Portfolio	138.98	149.45†	+ 0.66	0.68
Uk Inc & Growth	73.24	78.07	+ 0.44	2.58
Unit Inv & Bond	54.71	58.33	+ 0.31	7.07
CENT 60 OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
071 588 1815				
Inv Fund	644.05	691.35		4.74
Fxd Int Sec	148.35	159.40		9.77
CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
071 332 5000				
UK General Tst	62.10	67.17	+ 0.37	2.59
CHF CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD				
071 588 1815				
Inc	536.66	643.74		4.74
Accum	[720.69	[227.10		9.59
(Accum Units)	[35.70	[38.76		
CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD				
071 837 7882				
Intl Growth	118.46	129.33†		
UK Income	184.35	113.97†		5.773
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
071 497 3565				
Dealmaker Int'l	74.77	79.70	+ 1.33	1.54
Black Box Tech	33.05	[5.57†		
Asian Ethical Trs	146.07	[53.76†		1.05
City Fin Assets	66.19	70.41	+ 0.04	1.27
City Fin America	61.17	65.44	+ 1.67	
City Fin Intl	75.45	79.45	+ 0.67	0.53
City Fin Japan	170.33	179.29†	+ 4.57	
Fitzrs Max Cap	286.77	[53.66	+ 2.15	1.84
Fitzrs Max Inc	159.48	[91.49†	+ 2.48	4.10
Buckley Multi Opp	126.61	134.63	+ 0.78	0.05
Fountain Cap Gth	132.86	141.13†		
Southwood Intl	168.52	178.24†		
Cap Fin Prop Inc	51.51	54.80†		4.38
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
071 711 0777 Admin. 0277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	54.85	58.20	+ 0.07	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0800 373 393				
American Exmt	53.15	56.65		
Allst Mngd Exmt	34.91	37.34		0.37
Dragon Growth	67.64	72.34		0.38
Equity Inc Inc	78.73	83.76†		4.09
(Accum Units)	105.87	112.63		4.09
European Exmt	48.56	51.76		0.82
Income	27.28	29.31		
General Equity	79.61	84.47		2.66
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	24.19	25.44		8.42
Japan Growth	52.74	56.41		
Pacific Growth	48.00	51.16		2.74
Prop Shr Cls Inc	29.04	30.89		1.23
(Accum Units)	30.16	32.09		1.23
Retirement Inc #	24.93	26.52		0.01
Special Sits	45.99	38.49		2.05
UK & Overseas	46.13	49.07		1.76
COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD				
0634 898 000				
Capital	64.24	68.70	+ 0.44	2.37
Income	57.99	62.02	+ 0.38	4.26
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD				
081 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPI FUNDS)				
Income Funds:				
Equity Inc	151.19	160.84	+ 1.18	5.56
Fixed & Convertible	78.72	83.79	+ 0.09	7.54
Monthly Inc Fnd	47.59	50.62	+ 0.05	8.05
Preference Share	45.19	49.14	+ 0.05	7.46
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	119.17	126.78	- 0.09	7.35
Managed Fund	65.53	69.70	+ 0.37	3.82
UK Growth Funds:				
Smaller Cos	37.23	39.61	+ 0.04	1.71
(Accum Units)	42.58	45.31	+ 0.03	1.71
UK & General	74.50	79.28	+ 0.72	2.78
(Accum Units)	93.74	99.72	+ 0.89	2.78
UK Growth	134.57	143.16	+ 2.29	2.38
International Growth Funds:				
Europ Growth	181.52	193.11	- 1.11	0.25
Far Eastern Gth	129.75	138.03	+ 0.49	
Global Bond	75.06	79.86	+ 0.23	6.31
Japan Growth	125.46	133.47	+ 1.06	
North Amer Gth	156.33	166.31	+ 1.25	
Overall Growth	75.04	79.83	+ 0.14	
Worldwide Growth	63.97	68.09	+ 0.53	0.08
OTHER CO TRUSTS-(NON PPI FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.38	92.38	+ 0.05	5.38
Homeowner Fund	74.60	79.36	+ 0.34	1.90
Dollar Fund	122.84	130.69	+ 0.77	3.00
CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD				
0438 744 846				
Growth Inc	55.79	59.35		3.10
(Accum Units)	58.85	63.46		3.10
High Income	25.25	26.86		4.70
Japan	36.09	39.03		
Smaller Cos Inc	29.81	30.88†		2.88
Smaller Cos	30.72	32.68		2.60
North American	31.17	33.15		0.50
European	35.40	37.65		0.50
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
071 407 5966				
Consistent UT	29.84	31.99		3.28
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 525 358				
Growth	134.40	143.00	+ 0.20	2.18
Income	68.88	73.28	+ 0.36	5.64
European	58.75	62.51†	+ 0.09	1.12
Recovery	146.20	155.60	- 0.50	2.31
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
071 283 9494				
Equity Dist	756.06	798.68†		3.80
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
0277 580 370				
Fellowship Tst	68.30	72.69	+ 0.32	1.36
Income #	226.40	240.80	+ 1.40	4.90
(Accum Units) #	357.70	583.20	+ 3.60	4.90
Smaller Cos	147.20	156.50	+ 0.30	0.62
(Accum Units)	179.80	191.30	+ 0.40	0.62
Inv Portfolio	75.55	80.37	+ 0.47	1.46
High Inc Port #	86.47	70.71	+ 0.78	5.00
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
071 493 0172				
Euro Small Cos	$14.64	£15.01†		
Japan Small Cos	$12.35	£12.55†		
UK Small Cos	$16.91	£17.55		
US Small Cos	$15.26	£15.70†		
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
071 377 8819				
Disc Inc	192.70	202.90†		2.87
DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
031 315 2500				
European Gwth	269.00	274.90	- 0.70	1.01
Far East Inc	206.60	222.60	+ 0.80	0.15
Japan Growth	123.10	131.00	+ 1.00	
Jap Smlr Co	502.20	533.80	+ 4.00	
Nth Amer	245.50	260.30	+ 2.70	0.91
Stlnd Asia Pac Int	115.60	122.10	+ 0.40	0.37
UK Inc & Gth	203.30	217.10	+ 1.50	3.06
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
0342 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	133.70	142.20	+ 0.70	1.88
UK High Inc Inc	142.00	151.10	+ 0.75	4.77
(Accum Units)	181.90	193.50	+ 0.90	4.77
UK Prof & Fl Inc	56.19	59.64	+ 0.08	5.26
Emergmnt Opps	80.01	85.12	+ 0.39	1.19
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 526				
American	115.00	122.10	+ 0.50	1.43
Convertibles #	19.88	21.12†	+ 0.04	6.85
Equity Income #	120.30	127.80†	+ 0.50	4.13
Eurofund	43.34	46.04	+ 0.08	0.43
Financial	42.71	45.36	- 0.24	1.65
Growth & Inc #	220.30	237.30	+ 1.40	3.24
High Dist #	145.70	155.30†	+ 0.80	4.83
International	315.90	335.40	- 2.10	0.13
Int Cap Inc	90.84	96.97	+ 0.35	2.84
Latin American	33.86	36.00	- 2.24	
Pacific	61.65	66.75	+ 0.01	
Preference Share	122.20	129.30	+ 0.03	7.06
Tokyo	234.16	248.70	+ 1.90	
UK Smaller Cos	213.70	227.10	- 0.10	1.21
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
071 242 0242				
Elcon Trust	209.72	214.49	- 2.03	0.93
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
071 979 7991				
Endurance Fd	193.70	206.10		0.93
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0256 431 480				
European	78.11	89.12	+ 0.26	1.65
Ethical Tst	43.49	45.78	+ 0.13	1.25
Far Eastern	295.93	311.51	+ 0.83	1.87
High Income	124.83	131.46	+ 0.51	4.94
Income	116.89	123.04	+ 1.05	3.52
North American	104.62	110.13	+ 0.13	1.33
Pelican	111.99	117.88	+ 0.35	3.22
Smaller Cos	66.11	69.59†	- 0.08	2.58
Special Sits	83.89	88.30	+ 0.12	2.67
Tst of Inv Tsts	178.43	187.82	+ 0.15	1.54
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD				
071 407 5966				
Smaller Cos Inc	155.20	203.33	+ 0.37	1.44
Smaller Cos Acc	341.55	358.78	+ 0.54	1.44
Recovery	50.04	52.13†	+ 0.20	1.36
Recovery Acc	50.58	52.69†	+ 0.21	1.36
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0392 412 144				
Balanced	166.82	113.84†	+ 0.31	8.12
Capital Growth	77.98	83.54	+ 0.08	
Fd of Inv Trsts	43.50	46.40	+ 0.05	0.67
High Income #	42.90	45.98	+ 0.08	10.00
Warrant	53.71	58.38	- 0.10	
Zero Preference	95.98	98.97†	+ 0.08	
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
0273 220 787				
Family Asset Tst	73.39	78.67	+0.400	2.38
Family Income Tst	45.17	48.41	+0.220	5.82
Family Tst	80.41	85.54	+0.220	1.18
United Charities	251.70	267.80	+1.800	3.19
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Callbacks: Private Clients: 0800 414 181				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00		5.20
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	26.50	28.59†		7.88
Intl Bond	27.17	28.19	+ 0.01	5.53
Income Funds				
High Income	24.42	25.75	+ 0.01	5.19
Income Plus	108.10	112.80†	+ 0.40	4.36
Assets & Inc	44.69	47.44	+ 0.25	1.44
European Income	40.14	42.66	+ 0.03	7.86
Far East Inc	61.42	65.62†	+ 0.21	2.14
Global Opportunities	22.06	23.54†	+ 0.09	3.82
UK Div Unit	33.32	24.80	+ 0.10	1.90
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	81.79	85.91	- 0.55	
American	229.30	243.50	+ 1.30	
Amer Spec Sits	169.80	117.00	+ 0.80	
Japan Smaller Cos	40.72	43.44	+ 0.36	
European	188.70	170.90	+ 0.98	
European Opps	89.41	94.90	+ 0.58	
Global Pac	23.50	25.00	+ 0.01	1.20
UK Growth	85.24	90.64	+ 0.34	
Growth & Inc	135.38	143.90†	+ 1.30	2.57
Intl PEP	26.41	27.99	+ 0.26	
Japan Spec Sits	94.40	100.50	+ 1.48	
Japan	189.88	212.90	+ 2.20	
Managed Inc	265.10	282.40	+ 2.80	
Moneymarket	59.79	54.01	+ 0.22	
Recovery #	45.57	48.48	+ 0.17	
South E Asia	141.30	156.30	+ 0.40	
Special Sits	494.30	515.09	+ 0.40	
Specialist Funds				
Cash Access Units	107.69	107.69	+ 0.06	5.29
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
071 814 2700				
Balanced #	133.09	136.20	+ 1.70	1.56
Inc Plate #	82.77	84.36†	+ 0.57	3.50
Cap Plate	137.40	140.29†	+ 0.80	0.74
General Opps	117.66	119.80	+ 0.80	3.56
Growth Inc	29.42	30.09†	+ 0.23	1.77
Private Portfolio	385.50	394.10	+ 5.10	1.50
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Exp: 071 454 1434 Dlg: 0277 291 010				
Hgnp Foreign & Colonial				
European	108.00	114.20	+ 0.30	0.54
Emrg Asian	163.00	174.30		
High Income	21.04	22.36†	+ 0.09	10.05
Dedic Income	90.20	96.50†		2.96

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Growth	103.60	111.10	+ 0.40	1.68
UK Income	108.50	115.20	+ 0.50	4.29
UK Smaller Cos	286.10	306.00	+ 0.70	
FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
071 407 5966				
High Inc Exty	46.55	49.05†	+ 0.49	3.37
-do- Inc Tst Inc	72.90	76.83	+ 0.15	4.34
Intl Growth	68.24	71.72†		1.28
Investment Trust	89.65	93.95	+ 0.14	
UK Smaller Cos	77.00	81.05	+ 0.06	1.35
FRANKLINSTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
071 974 4190				
American Growth	52.79	56.41	+ 0.52	
(Accum Units)	52.79	56.41	+ 0.52	
Amer Smlr Cos	429.10	459.50	+ 6.00	
(Accum Units)	448.50	479.60	+ 6.00	
Capital Inc	298.70	317.10	+ 0.30	7.81
(Accum Units)	425.90	452.50	+ 0.40	1.61
Cons Smlr Cos	56.63	59.74	+ 0.45	0.66
(Accum Units)	58.50	62.04	+ 0.47	0.69
Convertible	122.50	130.30†	+ 0.10	5.87
(Accum Units)	247.80	263.60†	+ 0.30	5.87
Emerging Markets	72.16	77.00†	- 1.05	
(Accum Units)	72.72	77.15†	- 1.53	
European	112.30	119.20	+ 0.10	0.15
(Accum Units)	117.60	124.90		0.15
Extra Income	318.90	337.00	+ 1.30	4.62
(Accum Units)	452.10	498.90	+ 2.00	4.62
Financial	114.40	123.30	+ 0.70	0.36
(Accum Units)	129.50	129.90	+ 0.80	0.36
Gilt Trust	61.10	63.80	+ 0.20	6.37
(Accum Units)	65.44	68.

Press campaign was misguided

Regina v Vano

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Jowitt and Mr Justice Cresswell

[Judgment December 20]

While the press were guardians of the public interest, to pursue a campaign of vilification of someone who had been before the court was doing no public service and, if it was intended to bring pressure to bear on the courts, it was wholly misguided.

Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, so stated when giving the judgment of the Court of Appeal on a reference by the Attorney-General and, on the ground of public interest, declining to increase a 28-day prison sentence imposed by Judge Coltart at the Central Criminal Court in July on Colin Francis Vano, aged 33, for causing the death by dangerous driving of Nikki Lockley, aged nine, as she stepped on to a pedestrian crossing from a central reservation in Main Road, Romford, Essex.

Mr David Calvert-Smith for the Attorney-General; Mr Jeremy Gompertz, QC and Mr John Hamilton for the offender.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the judgment of the court, said that, in passing sentence the judge stated that the offender's driving had been "a momentary error of judgment". As the offender had been remanded in custody for 14 days for preparation of a pre-sentence report, the effect was that he was released. He was disqualified for three years and ordered to re-take his driving test. Also he was ordered to pay £800 costs of prosecution.

Among mitigating features in the guidelines case, *R v Boswell* ([1984] 1 WLR 1071 Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice indicated that, in the absence of aggravating features, sometimes failing to notice a pedestrian on a crossing it might be possible that a non-custodial sentence would be appropriate.

However, he was not saying that in every case where there was a failure to notice a pedestrian on a crossing, that was a matter which could take the case into a field where a non-custodial sentence would be appropriate.

Circumstances in which a road accident occurred could not be categorised, their circumstances varied infinitely. The failure to notice somebody who stepped out from the near side at a late stage was one thing. Failure to notice someone crossing from the other side of the road where traffic had already stopped there to permit that crossing and where traffic on one's own side had already stopped to allow the crossing to continue was altogether different.

Their Lordships did not consider that the present was truly a momentary reckless error of judgment. It was more than momentary, it involved that the offender had failed to look ahead, see the crossing, notice the central reservation, see that the traffic had stopped to let girls come on to the crossing, see the girls crossing the first half of it, see them standing on the central reservation and see traffic on his own side of the road stopped to allow them to go further.

Accordingly, the judge was right to conclude that the case required a custodial sentence. But at what level? The offender's previous driving convictions as a matter of aggravation were not to be taken too far. They were not particularly serious, nor a very short time before the present case. Clearly, they were matters to be taken into account, but were not a major factor.

The major factor was the failure to look ahead and pay attention in a built-up area, when driving in circumstances where the public could be endangered by a loss of attention.

The sentence passed by the judge was, in their Lordships' view, not merely lenient but unduly lenient, even bearing in mind that the maximum sentence for the offence had not at the time been increased by Parliament from five years to 10 and there were not here the factors of drink or racing or deliberate selfishness.

This was a piece of driving which was dangerous to a degree and required to be marked by a sentence more than a mere 28 days. An appropriate sentence at the time of the trial would have been six months imprisonment on a contested case, as this was. Had there been a plea of guilty, doubtless a discount for it could have been made.

What should their Lordships' court do now? They had to take into account, as with all references by the Attorney-General, the element of double jeopardy. Sometimes that factor could be regarded as fairly minor, where the original sentence imposed was custodial and all their Lordships was doing was increasing it.

But where, as here, the original sentence had resulted in the offender being released after having served 14 days of his 28-day sentence, there was an extra element to double jeopardy. The offender had suffered not only remorse but also a depressing illness as a result partly of the knowledge that he had killed a child by his driving but partly, it had to be said, as a result of a campaign which had been launched against him by the press.

Their Lordships would like to stress that, while the press were the guardians of the public interest, to pursue a campaign of vilification of someone who had been before the court, in a way which caused him to receive hate mail, caused his family to be under the need to move house, his children to be shunned by other children in the neighbourhood, was doing no public service. Furthermore, if it was intended to bring pressure to bear on the courts, then it was wholly misguided.

Having said that, their Lordships wished to point out that the pressure which the offender had suffered, partly because of what he had brought about partly because of the aftermath, which had so affected him, the medical evidence was, that he was increasingly depressed and he might be a suicide risk.

In the circumstances, although the sentence was unduly lenient, ought their Lordships, as a matter of discretion order the offender to return to prison or not? If it were to be return to prison it would for a very short period indeed. They did not consider that it was in the public interest that that should come about. It was sufficient that they should, by their judgment, indicate the level of sentence for causing death by dangerous driving, far from the top of the scale, should command.

Solicitors: CPS, HQ: John Healey & Co.

Conflicting interests of children

In re S (Minors) (Proceedings: Conflicting interests)

Before Mr Justice Wall

[Judgment December 16]

The interests of a child who was the subject of an application to revoke a care order prevailed over the interests of her half-sister who, in the same proceedings, was the subject of an application to free for adoption.

It was unnecessary and a waste of valuable resources to appoint more than one guardian *ad litem* to represent children who were involved in the same proceedings and whose interests conflicted.

Mr Justice Wall so held in a reserved judgment in the Family Division allowing an application to revoke a care order in respect of T, a girl aged six, and making a residence order in favour of T's father. An application by the local authority to free T for adoption was dismissed but an application to free her half-sister, E, aged four, for adoption was allowed. The judgment was delivered in open court following a hearing and preliminary judgment in chambers.

Miss Alison Ball for T's father; Mr Alexander Verdan for the local authority; Mr Richard Scarratt for the mother; Mr Edward Woodcraft, solicitor, for the guardian *ad litem*.

MR JUSTICE WALL said that the case had thrown up a dilemma sadly familiar to the judges of the Family Division in which the best interests of two or more children conflicted.

If the paramount interests of each child produced incompatible and irreconcilable results, so that the result which was in the best interests of each child was impossible of achievement, whose interests were then paramount?

Where a number of children were all the subject of an application or cross-applications to the court in the same set of proceedings, and where it was impossible to achieve what was in the paramount interests of each child, the balancing exercise described in the Court of Appeal in *In re H (Minors) (Parental contact)* ([1993] 1 FCR 904, 914) had to be undertaken and the situation of least detriment to all the children achieved.

However, since T was the only subject of the application for the revocation of the care order, was it her welfare alone which was paramount? The only other applications before the court were the applications to free the children for adoption.

In the application to free T for adoption, her welfare was the first, but not paramount consideration. Similar considerations applied, *mutatis mutandis* in the freeing application in relation to E.

His Lordship was therefore driven to the conclusion that the only application before the court in which either child's welfare was the paramount consideration was the father's application to revoke the care order in relation to T, that since she was the only subject of that application, her welfare, following *Birmingham City Council v H (a Minor)* ([1994] 2 AC 124), was paramount.

The unsatisfactory and artificial nature of that conclusion was demonstrated by the fact that on the making of an adoption order in relation to E, the care order in respect of her would be discharged and the local authority would cease to have parental responsibility.

It was not difficult, therefore, to perceive the application to free E for adoption as being directly analogous to the application by the father to revoke the care order in relation to T. Yet the nature of the proceedings before the court required his Lordship to hold that the interests of one child were paramount.

Equally, if the mother had issued an entirely unmeritorious application to revoke the care order in relation to E, the balancing exercise could have been performed. It was highly unsatisfactory that the vital question of children's welfare should depend on the vagaries of procedure.

What was the position of a guardian *ad litem* (i) who was appointed to represent more than one child in proceedings and (ii) who found that the interests of the children he or she was appointed to represent conflicted?

In his Lordship's judgment, there was usually no reason why the guardian *ad litem* could not properly represent all the children involved.

The duty of a guardian *ad litem* appointed in specified proceedings was to safeguard the interests of the child or children whom he or she was appointed to represent in the manner prescribed by rule 4.11 of the Family Proceedings Rules (SI 1991 No 1247). There was nothing in rule 4.11 which prevented a guardian *ad litem* representing children whose interests conflicted.

In this case, the guardian *ad litem* had been able to fulfil her function notwithstanding the conflict of interests between the children. She had identified and defined the interests of each child: she had then conducted a balancing exercise between the interests of the children and gave her view of where the balance fell.

In his Lordship's judgment, to have more than one guardian *ad litem* was unnecessary and complicated the matter: it was also a waste of valuable resources.

[An order prohibiting the publication of information likely to identify the local authority or whereabouts of the children was made.]

Discretion point should have been put to justices

Braham v Director of Public Prosecutions

Before Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Mr Justice Latham

[Judgment December 19]

It was not permissible to raise before the Divisional Court the issue of justices' discretion to exclude evidence under section 78 of the Police and Criminal Act 1984 when that was not raised earlier before the justices.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so stated when dismissing an appeal by Araminta Braham by way of case stated of a decision of Horseferry Road Justices on October 27, 1992 when they found her guilty of an offence under section 5(1)(a) of the Road Traffic Act 1988.

Mr Victor Temple, QC, who did not appear below, for Ms Braham; Mr Peter Ader for the prosecution.

MR JUSTICE LATHAM said that the justices' clerk had been wrong in law to advise that justices had no discretion under section 78 of the 1984 Act to exclude evidence obtained from a breath specimen test. The court could exercise its discretion to exclude if the prosecution behaviour was oppressive in the way described in *Matto v Wolverhampton Crown Court* ([1987] RTR 337).

In the present case, however, there had been no submission made to the justices based on that power under section 78 in contradistinction to both *Matto* and *Sharpe v DPP* ([1993] RTR 392) where it was made clear that evidence could be excluded because of oppression and because the section 78 point had been raised and had to be dealt with by evidence.

Rather, the submissions before the justices were directed to the lawfulness of the arrest and that was the issue on which they had concentrated. Before the Divisional Court it was accepted that was not the relevant issue.

However, in his Lordship's judgment, the justices could not be criticised for deciding as they did, which was a perfectly permissible decision, by reference in the Divisional Court to a power they had not been asked to exercise.

If they had not been asked it was not for the Divisional Court to criticise a decision made by the justices directed to a different point they might have decided in a different way if the section 78 point had been put to them. In his Lordship's judgment, Ms Braham could not rely on section 78 and her case did not come in the same category as *Matto* or *Sharpe*.

On the submission that the evidence did not justify the justices' conclusion that Ms Braham had been given proper warning of the consequences of failure to provide a specimen at the police station, his Lordship found that the justices had dealt robustly as recommended in *Murray v DPP* ([1993] RTR 209).

They were entitled to conclude on the custody officer's evidence of the proforma procedure followed that a proper warning had been given, irrespective of the bona fides of the police officer in question.

The issue could or should have been raised, if proper to do so, by questioning of the custody officer. No such cross-examination took place. In his Lordship's judgment the point was not open to Ms Braham at all.

The appeal accordingly failed on both points.

Lord Justice Butler-Sloss agreed.

Solicitors: Jeffrey Gordon & Co, Battersea; Crown Prosecution Service, HQ.

Aircraft noise decision was unlawful

Regina v Secretary of State for Transport, Ex parte Richmond upon Thames London Borough Council and Others

Before Mr Justice Latham

[Judgment December 20]

Decisions made by the Secretary of State for Transport were made unlawfully where they were made contrary to stated policy and without acknowledgment of the change in his position.

Mr Justice Latham so held in upholding, to the extent of declaratory relief only, the applications of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, Tandridge District Council, the London Borough of Hillingdon and Slough Borough Council for *certiorari* to quash the decisions of the Secretary of State for Transport to introduce new flying restrictions at Gatwick, Heathrow and Stansted made on October 12, 1993, February 1, 1994 and May 6, 1994.

The secretary of state's decisions were intended to give effect to proposals to restrict flying to and from Heathrow, Stansted and Gatwick airports at night by allocating points to each kind of aircraft so that the quietest were allocated 0.5 points then ranging through 1, 2, 4, 8, to 16 for the loudest type of aircraft.

Total noise quota counts were then imposed by which there were to be no more flights by aircraft of all kinds than amounted to the use of 5,000 points for the winter and 7,000 for the summer at Heathrow and for Gatwick those figures were to be 6,450 and 9,000 respectively.

The secretary of state had made an earlier decision to introduce a new regime for night flights which had been successfully challenged by judicial review before Mr Justice Laws (*The Times* October 12, 1993). The decisions that were the subject of the present challenge were intended to introduce the new night flying provisions in a more acceptable form.

Mr Richard Gordon, QC and Mr Alan Maclean for the applicants; Mr Ian Burnett and Mr Mark Shaw for the secretary of state.

MR JUSTICE LATHAM said the applicants' arguments pertaining to legitimate expectation had two aspects. One was that the secretary of state's decisions were invalid as he had promised or undertaken that noise levels would be reduced, or at least made no worse but that the regime for noise levels introduced by his decisions would allow for greater noise.

That was rejected by Mr Justice Laws as a matter of principle but the applicants now sought to re-argue the question on a somewhat different basis of fact.

On legitimate expectation the applicants also argued that they were entitled to consultation but had not had such proper consultation. That was a submission that the applicants had reformulated in the present case to take account of their claim that they were misled as to the basis upon which the proposals were put forward for consultation in January 1993.

The summer maximum for movements of aircraft at Heathrow in 1988 was 2,750 and when consulting interested parties that was the basis upon which the secretary of state calculated a noise quota count in 1988 of 8,000 in comparison with proposals for a quota of 7,000.

In fact the number of aircraft movements for summer 1988 at Heathrow was 1,800 and the respondent accepted that the noise quota for that number of movements would in all probability be less than 7,000. Far from being an improvement over the noise levels experienced in 1988 the new summer quotas if fully utilised would produce an increase over the noise levels experienced in summer 1988 contrary to the apparent and expressed policy of the respondents. The consultation paper was materially misleading and there was not full and fair consultation.

But the issue went further than the consultation process. The secretary of state had made it clear that noise levels would be below those in summer 1988. His Lordship could could see nothing to suggest that the secretary of state took into account that the proposed quotas, if fully utilised, would probably result in increased noise levels contrary to his expressed policy.

The secretary of state might, if he took account of relevant considerations, depart from his previously expressed policy but must necessarily include a recognition that he had done so. The decisions were for those reasons unlawful.

Solicitors: Mr Richard Buxton, Cambridge; Treasury Solicitor.

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It pays to book early, honestly

The post-Christmas travel industry sales fight is again in full swing as travel agents and tour operators seek to attract an estimated three million package holiday-makers prepared to book early for next summer.

It has now become traditional for the giants of the industry to try to out-do each other with bigger discounts — and then solemnly to warn that prices will soon have to rise again. The same song has been sung so often that sophisticated travellers ignore it.

This year, for once, the industry is not crying wolf.

The inflationary pressure which has built up over the past few years is near bursting point and before the summer season of 1995 really gets under way I predict that tour operators will be bringing out "second edition" brochures with higher prices.



HARVEY ELLIOTT

Almost every element in a standard package holiday is now costing much more than it did last year.

The charter airlines are having to pay more to buy or lease bigger aircraft to make best use of takeoff and landing slots now in desperately short supply. The number of passengers carried last month by the holiday airlines is up by 4.5 per cent on the same month last year and an even bigger increase is likely next year.

This year British tour operators were shocked to discover that they no longer had the pick of beds in the best hotels throughout the Mediterranean and they could no longer force hoteliers to accept low prices.

Even those who were prepared to pay in full and in advance were being told that the rooms had been snapped up by holidaymakers from the former East Germany, Russia, Scandinavia and other European countries with expanding economies.

There are a few exceptions. Holidays in Turkey are still cheaper than most because the Germans have decided not to go there in such numbers next year, and there is still some overcapacity in Florida.

Destinations which are attractively priced — and therefore popular — in 1995 will be the Dominican Republic and Sri Lanka and there is growing interest in Italy and the Middle East.

But in most of the more popular holiday destinations the fundamental economic diktat rules — high demand and stagnant supply means higher prices.

The coming year will see the beginning of a bitterly fought planning battle as BAA tries to get permission to build a fifth terminal at Heathrow.

Expect even more noise from the anti-noise groups living near airports as they are joined by protesters who until now have concentrated on stopping roads being built. Also expect a serious attempt to shift the "hub" of Europe from Heathrow to Frankfurt, Paris, Amsterdam, Brussels or even Luxembourg.

State-owned scheduled airlines in mainland Europe may finally have to face the fact that rules outlawing state-aid applies to them and not just to Britain.

With more overcrowding, higher prices and political inaction, the arrival of 1995 would seem to presage a particularly gloomy 12 months. But it need not be.

More than 10 million people will fly away on foreign package holidays next year, business travel looks certain to grow fast, and the number of short breaks taken at home will also be up sharply.

A grey army heads south

You can winter in the sun and save money, says **Marianne Curphey**

Record numbers of retired people are avoiding the gloom of a British winter and heading for the sun — and a lower cost of living — in the Mediterranean.

It is now possible to spend eight weeks in a Spanish apartment for less than £600 per person while eight weeks in an all-inclusive hotel, with all meals, activities and refreshments paid for, costs about £1,065 per person.

As well as avoiding fuel bills by leaving Britain behind, it is often much cheaper to eat out in Spain and Greece. The Thomas Cook travel agency calculates that a three-course meal costs about £5.85 in the Greek Islands. In Spain, eating out costs about £6.85.

Retired people spend most of their income on food and motoring, according to the Central Statistical Office. The wealthiest 20 per cent of households with more than two people aged between 65 and 75 spend just over £16 a week on fuel, light and power, and just under £60 a week on food. In eight weeks their food and fuel bill would be over £600, their motoring bill would be £535 and leisure goods and services would cost £564. The total: £1,700 per household.

Those with the most money and aged over 75 spend an average £14 on fuel and £44 on food, and their bill for two months would be £460.

Saga, the holiday company which specialises in travel for the over-50s and which sends all its clients abroad during the off-peak season, says Spain, Malta, Portugal, Cyprus and Madeira are its most popular long-stay winter sun destinations.

Noel Josephides, managing director of Cyprus specialists Sunvil Holidays, warned, however, that winter in the Mediterranean can be colder than some holidaymakers imagine.

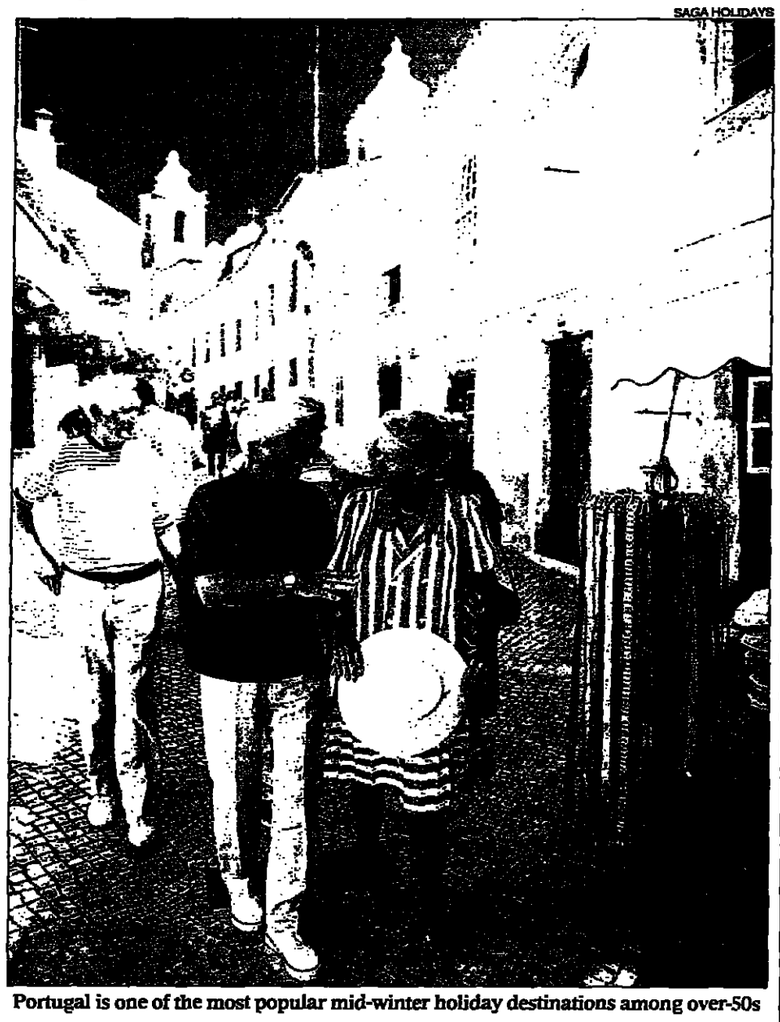
"Temperatures can be as low as 8C or 9C and there are times when you will need a jacket," he says. "In addition, holidaymakers should pick resorts close to amenities and not head for the hills. There is little joy in being far away from shops, restaurants and indoor activities if it rains for a week."

Saga (0800 300 500), offers accommodation at the Turmalina Apartments at Calpe, Costa Brava, for 28 nights in January from £359 per person including flights, based on two people sharing a one-bedroom apartment.

All-inclusive holidays at Lloret de Mar, Costa Brava, for eight weeks from January cost £1,065 per person in a twin or single room.

Thomas Cook is currently offering 28 days full board accommodation on the Costa Blanca for £499 per person. Departures are between January 5 and 18 and extra weeks are £99.

Saga's top ten winter sun destinations are: Spain, Malta, Portugal, Cyprus, Madeira, Greece, Tenerife, Minorca, Majorca, Turkey.



SAGA HOLIDAYS

Portugal is one of the most popular mid-winter holiday destinations among over-50s

Garden holidays bloom

THE pleasures of gardening, without any of its pains, are now being offered by an increasing number of specialist holiday firms. *Celia Haddon writes.*

Looking round somebody else's nearly perfect flowerbeds is so much easier than cultivating your own and garden tourism abroad offers all the colour and fragrance — without the rain which so often accompanies British horticultural tours.

David Sayers Travel (01572-821330), for instance, runs a week's holiday in Normandy from June 30, from £1,097. Further afield, and more expensive, is the trip to New Zealand gardens and national parks, from November 16 for 25 days, from £3,987.

Gardener's Delight (01522-703773) has two four-day holidays, costing from £389 and starting April 21 and April 25, to Floralies in Ghent, the Belgian equivalent of Chelsea Flower show, only much larger. The company is also running a ten-day coach holiday starting June 28 to the high Alps, from £835 and including a visit to the highest garden in Europe.

Cox and Kings (0171-873-5002) runs garden holidays to Madeira, Lisbon, the Côte d'Azur and Italy. An eight-day trip round the Italian Lakes costs from £1,025 and leaves on June 22, August 31, September 14 and September 28. The trip includes a visit to the Villa Taranto, created in the 1930s by an Englishman abroad.

Boxwood Tours, (01235-532791) which has holidays to Normandy, Tuscany, the Irish Republic, the Côte d'Azur, and Madeira this year, promises a mixture of private and public gardens. In Madeira, for instance, which costs from £895 for April 27 to May 4, there will be visits to botanical gardens, an orchid nursery, and the Quinta Palheiro, a garden created by the English Blandy family.

Expatriate Brits like the Blandys have made gardens all over the world and despite the exotic plants, their gardens have the unmistakable atmosphere of home.

Planetarium facelift

THE London Planetarium, one of the capital's most popular tourist attractions for the past 36 years, is to close from next Monday for a £4.5 million refurbishment, *David Churchill writes.* The work will last for five months and will include the scrapping of the old Zeiss twin-globe projector.

"The Zeiss was starting to show its age so we decided to upgrade the technology and change the seating arrangement to bring it in line with other planetaria around the world," says the administrator, Undine Concannon.

The inside of the planetarium is being totally rebuilt with new theatre-style seating to replace the present circular seat layout and a new computer-controlled video projector called Digistar Two.

The new projector will project even more detailed charts than the 9,000 stars displayed by the old two-ton Zeiss equipment. The naked eye can see only a maximum of 2,000 stars from either hemisphere.

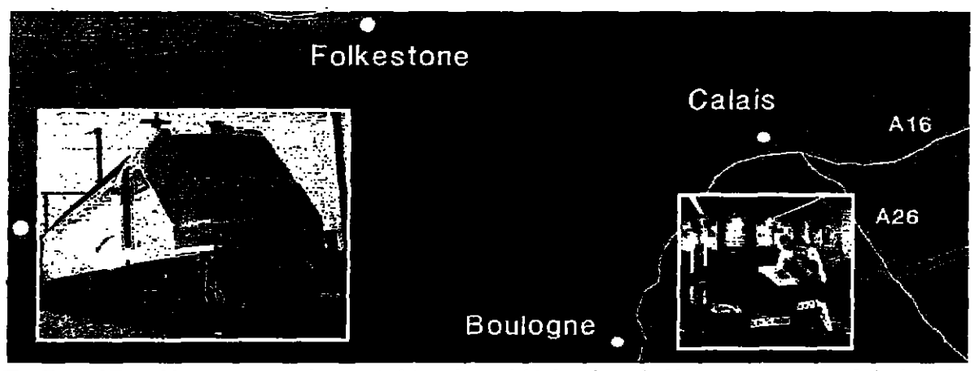
Ms Concannon says that replacing the Zeiss projector means the end of an era for the planetarium. "We'll be very, very sad to see it go, but the Digistar will enable us to be more flexible in what we can show. This is important, given the ever-increasing new discoveries about the universe."

The planetarium was opened in 1958 by the adjacent Madame Tussaud's as a private venture after attempts over the previous 30 years to raise government finance had failed. It was the first planetarium in the Commonwealth although many other planetaria, mostly publicly funded, had been built in Europe and the United States.

The narrator, remembered with most nostalgia by many visitors, was John Ebdon, whose stentorian tones were heard between 1968 and 1989. Other narrators include the astronomer Heather Cooper and actors Martin Jarvis and Joss Ackland.

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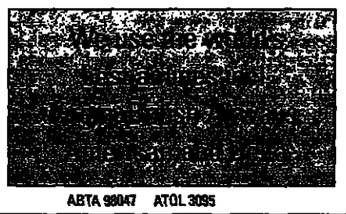
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THEATRE page 31
Beatrice Lillie was the funniest woman in the world — in her heyday and her dotage

ARTS

TOMORROW
Happy meetings with Ronald Duncan, man of letters and confirmed old rake



Strictly adults only

CINEMA: **Geoff Brown** gorges on some real mind fodder in *Vanya on 42nd Street*; plus the year's best and worst



Louis Malle (in the background) plays hands-off director to Wallace Shawn and Julianne Moore as they rehearse Mamet's adaptation of Chekhov in *Vanya on 42nd Street*

Vanya on 42nd Street
Curzon Mayfair
U, 119 mins
Malle and Chekhov for the ears and mind

Love, Cheat & Steal
MGM Piccadilly
18, 96 mins (from Jan 6)
Advance warning of a minor catastrophe

Following a movie Christmas dominated by Macaulay Culkin, Santa Attenborough and Sylvester Stallone blowing people up, the time has come for some adult entertainment. Chekhov, no less. Not that **Vanya on 42nd Street** is your traditional Chekhov production. No country estate setting. No steaming samovars. The actors wear street clothes throughout, and they speak their lines in the grandiose decay of the disused New Amsterdam Theatre in New York City: once home of the Ziegfeld Follies in the 1920s, current home to cobwebs, rats and the ghosts of a glorious past.

Their guide and mentor is the theatre director André Gregory, who watches the rehearsal with a few friends, but gives no notes between acts. Since the bulk of his actors have been giving semi-public rehearsals of the play for five years, off and on, there is probably no need. The most instruction Gregory offers is: "OK, let's take a little break."

Act I is followed by a shift of position in the theatre, Act II by a buffet lunch. Then Chekhov resumes, in a lithe adaptation rendered by David Mamet from a literal translation. Wallace Shawn is Uncle Vanya, while the film's near-invisible director is Louis Malle, who worked with both Shawn and Gregory on the whimsical conversation piece *My Dinner With André*, a surprise art-house hit in 1981.

Vanya offers a bouquet of pleasures. As Shawn, Julianne Moore, Brooke Smith and the rest of the cast gather for the day's work, your eyes revel in the theatre's golden peacocks and art nouveau flourishes, crumbling remains of ornate decorations that once gave a setting for Eddie Cantor, W.C. Fields and other stars of Florenz Ziegfeld's spectacular revues. But the grand, forlorn building, currently awaiting renovation by Walt Disney Enterprises, presents more than a slice of history. Its condition mirrors the decay and torpor of Chekhov's characters as they gather at Professor Serebryakov's estate to ponder lost chances, lost loves, and the sad state of things.

A shiver runs up your back when the actors' chatter blends into the play's opening lines. With several years' intensive rehearsal behind it, Gregory's troupe tackles its roles with wonderful ease and finesse. The quality of the script obviously helps: Mamet's dialogue, muted by the standards of *American Buffalo* but idiomatic enough to include the term "freeloader" and curt reprimands like "Oh will you shut up?", always sits easily on the tongue.

Shawn's customary squawks and grimaces take him only so far into the indolent, lovelorn estate manager Vanya; but he never seriously upsets the ensemble's balance. George Gaynes, a regular in the dire *Police Academy* comedies, shows his true mettle as the ageing, blustering Serebryakov; while Smith and Moore offer vivacity and poignancy as Sonya and Yelena, daughter and stepmother caught in the travails of the heart. It is a real pleasure to see American actors released from trash and revelling in the classic repertoire.

Malle plays the observer, rather than the interpreter. He watches faces, gestures and silences. For some viewers, this distanced approach may make the talk weigh uncomfortably heavy. The New Amsterdam Theatre never collapses on the cast: no one goes to bed with Sharon Stone. But if you come to the cinema with your ears and minds, not just your eyes and a bag of popcorn, *Vanya on 42nd Street* will reward you many times over.

Eight new films open on January 6: this week the tally is one. No one, I hope, will object if I give a sneak preview to **Love, Cheat & Steal**, a minor affair which would otherwise get trampled upon next week. Still, such is the fate this botched *film noir* from a new writer-director, William Curran, probably deserves. But since some might be lured to the box office by the cast — John Lithgow, *Twin Peaks* luminary Madchen Amick and Eric Roberts — it seems only fair to issue a brief warning.

The problem lies mainly with Curran's script, which juggles far too many elements for safety. Is this a thriller about blackmail and betrayal, a bank robbery yarn, or a sexually teasing tale of two men and one woman? Different scenes point in different directions and the actors quickly get derailed.

For all her arched eyebrows, Amick seems more Little Bo Peep than *femme fatale*; Roberts's loathsome prison escapee slumps into self-parody, while Lithgow, as Amick's banker husband, gives the impression that he does not believe one word he says. *Love, Cheat & Steal* comes smartly packaged, with impressive photography and crisp editing from Monte Hellman, past director of existential westerns. But if the script is a tangle, and the thrills never thrill, there is no movie.

So ends a year of mixed fortunes in British cinemas. The films poured out in a torrent, but most minor items disappeared after a few weeks' exposure.

All the ballyhoo in the world could not save *Mary Shelley's Frankenstein* from being an ugly mess; but a potential potboiler like *Speed*, from cinematographer-turned-director Jan DeBont, came from nowhere to set pulses racing and turn Keanu Reeves into the new action hunk. With *The Age of Innocence* and *Schindler's List*, Scorsese and Spielberg stretched themselves rewardingly; other prominent talents, like the Coen brothers or Woody Allen, stuck to their cosy rut.

Britain charmed the world with the bubbly social comedy of *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, but few, unfortunately, ran to see Ken Loach's fine and searing *Ladybird Ladybird*. The British Board of Film Classification appeared at times to be blown along with every passing gust of wind, withholding certificates for videos and films one minute, then issuing them when the tabloid headlines had disappeared.

Above all, this was the year that Quentin Tarantino became a god as every film magazine, every TV arts programme, trumpeted his name. *Pulp Fiction* was a work of dark wit and attractive energy, but if that exhibitionist epic represents the cinematic peak of 1994 then the art form is destined for a soulless future.

My own happiest hours have been spent with kindlier films, such as Tian Zhuangzhuang's beautiful and moving *The Blue Kite* or Zhang Yimou's *To Live*, or the emotional restraint of Scorsese's *The Age of Innocence*. The prize for the most enthralling hokum must go to *Speed*. Dennis Hopper's bad performance notwithstanding. *Schindler's List* and Altman's *Short Cuts* were films to admire, but not particularly cherish; while *Forrest Gump*, like several of Hollywood's classier films, would have been more enjoyable if its material had not been so overstretched.

For idiosyncratic delights, Francis Girard's endlessly stimulating *32 Short Films About Glenn Gould* takes the year's crown; although Patrick Keiller's *London* deserves an honourable mention for injecting British cinema with playful intelligence and a poetic vision. And a hearty thank you to Krzysztof Kieślowski, for avoiding the usual European waffle and making films of precision and substance. On to 1995.

THEATRE: A pantomime at the Nuffield in Southampton gets lost in Sherwood Forest

Round Robin

PLAYS have been staged in the round at the Nuffield with fair success, but the style barely works at all with this panto *Robin Hood*. The kids liked it, particularly the tots, because villains prance around inches in front of their noses, and even sit on their laps. Alan Rickman won't do that when you watch *Robin Hood* on television. However, there is always some moment in the most traditionally staged panto when actors chase each other through the audience, causing just the same squeaks of excitement, so little is gained in this area from doing it in the round.

The front stalls have been replaced by a square platform, and eight rows of seats rise up behind it on the normal stage. This works best at the beginning, when Granville Saxton's Sheriff professes to be taken aback by our presence on the stage and burlesques the requirements of acting to all points of the compass, circumnavigating the platform, rotating on one leg. Unfortunately, the cast soon revert to playing in the usual direction, and the production (by Patrick Sandford and David Massarella) comes up with few ideas for making the set pieces enjoyable to all.

For instance, the archery contest. The target revolves around a pivot but the arrows go into it (or emerge from it) when it is facing the main house. The eight rows on stage would have liked to see Robin's arrow apparently split the Sheriff's down the middle but were only allowed to see the result when the target next turned our way.

A better idea was the jousting where two knights on converted tricycles circle the platform and zoom at one another with poles tipped with a sharp pin to pop the balloons bobbing behind their headarmour. A foolish idea is to incorporate chunks from a play by Tennyson, *The Foresters*.

The Merrie Men are a colourless band, though Duncan Henderson has his moments as a dithering Little John, taken aback when Sue Holland's forward Jill Scarlett kisses him first.

Except when Cameron Blakely's Robin disguises himself as an old crone and alters his voice to suit, he has to spout Tennysonian fatuities and this isn't much fun. And the general lack of fun is what is so disappointing, except for tots. Saxton works hard building up routines with the audience, and these scenes, often with his sidekick, Don Gallagher's bumbling Sir Guy, bring the best rewards. But then it is back to Sherwood Forest, comic incidents that do not prove their worth, and the return from the Crusades of King Richard clad in his silver thermals.

JEREMY KINGSTON

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Tuned in to new tradition

RADIO REVIEW: This year's Christmas schedules successfully combined familiar fare with some modern innovations

At this time of the year some critics break their pattern of causing slight annoyance to some readers by reviewing programmes they have missed during the previous week. Instead they make said readers absolutely furious by slavering over programmes they have missed during the entire year. Maddening, isn't it?

Take for example the Gielgud *King Lear* on Radio 3, which absolutely and without question ... Oh you didn't? How sad.

I shall now desist from this cruel and unusual punishment, only pausing to say that in 1994 I was wrongly lukewarm about the revamped Radio 5, which has proved to be a genuine success for the BBC, and to add that in refusing to join the lynch mob for *Anderson Country* I was too kind by half, for the programme is no better than it ever was.

I continue to insist, however, that Gerry Anderson is a good broadcaster in a duff context, which is the exact opposite of the problem faced by some of the so-called personalities who afflict the ear.

A convenient point to come up to date, for an otherwise excellent Christmas of BBC programmes got off to a bad start on Christmas Eve with no less a personality than James Earl Jones narrating **Disney's Wonderful World of Christmas**, a heavily-hyped programme with the kind of sugar levels your dentist gets mad about.

The BBC chose to call this hotch-potch of Disneyism "the start of a tradition" but I think that we select our traditions in retrospect and that this will not be among them. I hope.

Real tradition was elsewhere on the waveband, notably in Radio 4's **A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**, which was a wondrous 90 minutes from King's College, Cambridge, annoyingly scheduled up against Classic FM's **Carols from Canterbury Cathedral**.

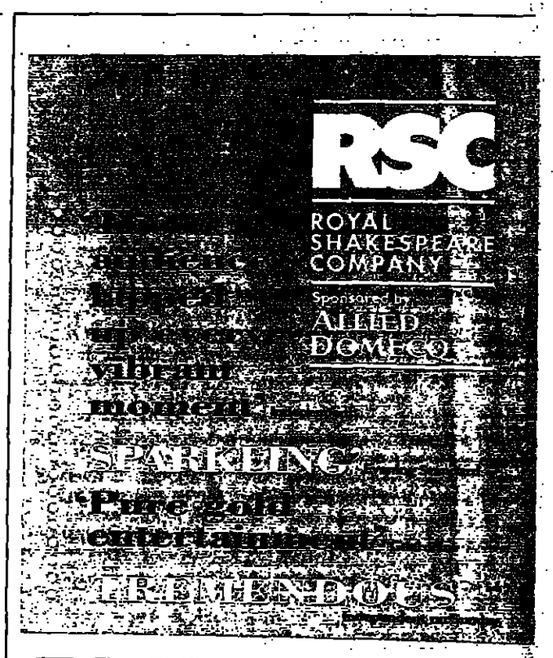
These and several other presentations demonstrated that the traditional Christmas is very much alive in the corridors of broadcasting, but there was also a marvellous modern tilt via **The Twelve Days of Christmas**, a wacky play by Bryony Lavery about two families running businesses on a seaside pier: an ice cream parlour and a rock shop.

The modern references were nicely ladled out and amusingly written, including a Santa Claus driven crackers, so to speak, by the need to deal in "child units".

This play, and a new production of **The Snow Queen**, showed how weak are the extreme arguments that rage around seasonal broadcasting, traditionalists versus modernists. The obvious fact that there is room for both and that quality and variety are the only worthwhile tests seems to have escaped those hawk-eyed folk who watch the schedules for deviant behaviour.

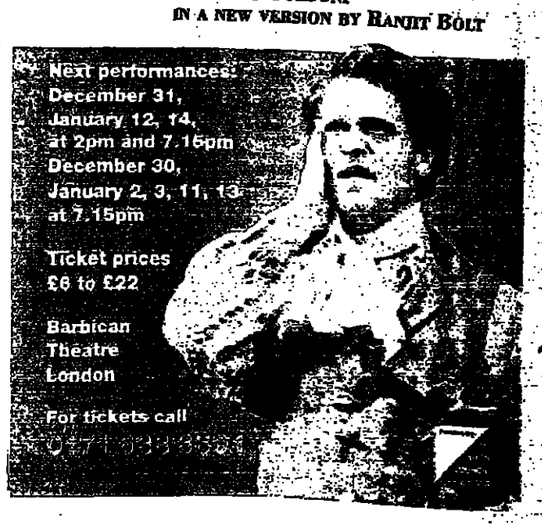
At the risk of sounding overly filled with good will, I have to say that Christmas radio, especially from the BBC, has this year been a comfort and a joy. All the more so when set against the film festival that Christmas television has become.

PETER BARNARD



THE Venetian Twins

BY CARLO GOLDONI
IN A NEW VERSION BY RANJIT BOLT



هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الاصل

A funny thing happened

David Robinson on a forgetful old woman, confused by life — until she stepped on to a stage and made it her world again



YOUSUF KARSH/NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

"She could have been a slapstick star in the class of Chaplin or Keaton": Beatrice Lillie, funniest woman in the world

In the 1920s and 1930s they called Beatrice Lillie "the funniest woman in the world". Even in the 1950s, when I saw her, as often as I could, in her entertainment *An Evening With Beatrice Lillie*, she still had no serious rival for the title. She always did the same numbers, and did them in precisely the same way, and yet they were always just as funny as the very first time.

She sang them with an arch innocence that dissembled the merciless irony. The romantic tradition of popular ballads was coolly liquidated in songs like "Wind Round My Heart" and "This Is My First Affair ... So Please Be Kind" (which recalled the singer's progression of amours, in the course of which "please be kind" wearied into a bored "please be quick"). She sang "There Are Fairies At The Bottom Of My Garden" with the straightest face and the wickedest innuendo.

Late in her career she was the best of all Auntie Mames, and a wonderfully eccentric Madame Arcati in Noël Coward's own Broadway revival of *Blithe Spirit*. She made few films, but her performance as an oriental white slaver was the saving grace of *Thoroughly Modern Millie*.

Between the wars she was one of the great celebrities of the international social set, the toast of two continents. In Hollywood, above all, this sophisticated Canadian who had married a British title (she was Lady Peel) was a figure of enormous fascination, not least for her pithy aphorisms on the habits and celebrities of the film capital. Yet, strangely, she made only a single silent film; and this was the reason I came to meet her.

In 1968 I had programmed the film at the National Film Theatre. Opportunely, Lillie happened to be in London on the day of the show; and it was arranged that she would come along and introduce the screening.

We met for tea before the show. She had aged, but was instantly recognisable, with the oval face, symmetrical and rather angular features and quizzical mouth. The Romeo cap which, on stage and off, had been her trademark since the Twenties, sat pertly on the dark, close-bobbed hair. Only the eyes, once so strikingly direct, seemed a little less focused, inclined to wander off into the distance.

Her escort mentioned that they had just come from the cinema, where they had seen *Star!*, the life story of Gertrude Lawrence, Lillie's exact contemporary. Their careers had been entangled, sometimes stormily, when they appeared in a series of hugely successful revues at the Vaudeville Theatre during the First World War.

Before production, the film-makers had asked Lillie for permission to present her as a character in *Star!* She told them that she would be delighted to play herself. This was not what the film-makers had in mind, since at the time of her association with Lawrence she had been 19 going on 20. Now she was 70. The contretemps was never straightened out and she did not figure in the film.

But her opinion of it would, I imagined, be fascinating. "What film?" she asked, genuinely puzzled. "The one you just saw: *Star!* About Gertrude Lawrence." "A film about Gertie? How interesting. When is it?" "You just saw it." "Did I?"

She was not, as I first supposed, joking. I began to worry slightly about the evening's on-stage presentation.

There was a reception before the show. The worries grew. She was cordial but vague, and constantly distracted by recurrent anxiety that she had lost something. "Where's my handbag?" she would ask every two minutes; and then, "Where's my raincoat?" However many times the things were put into her hands, she would start all over again.

She could not remember for 30 seconds why she was there at all. Thankfully she showed no surprise when I said: "Shall we go on stage now?" So far so good, but then: "Where's my raincoat?"

"You won't need it. We're going on stage."

"I have to have it. My raincoat."

The raincoat was a striking bright yellow plastic garment. Raincoat and all, we made it to the stage. She sauntered on, suddenly without a care in the world, dragging the raincoat on the floor behind her. She turned and snapped at it: "Enough of that, Fido!" In the same moment, the raincoat was transformed into a dog and the befogged old lady into Beatrice Lillie, the funniest woman in the world.

The day I met . . .
BEATRICE LILLIE

The audience roared. She fixed them with a beady glare. "Laughter? I will not stand for that!" She spread the raincoat down on the ground. "So I shall sit!" She did so, cross-legged, and started into an improvised act. She did not really say anything or do anything that could be recalled as being specially funny in itself. She just *was* funny. For 15 minutes the audience had the time of their lives. Then, with perfect aplomb, she made her exit.

Off-stage, she seemed happy and energised. We made our way to our seats in the auditorium; and she graciously acknowledged the adoration of the people around her.

Then came the film, in which she plays the maid of all work in a theatrical stock company touring the sticks. Silence was no handicap to her: she could have been a slapstick star in the class of Chaplin or Keaton. A scene in which she disguises herself as a vamp in order to seduce and undo the villain is a classic of film comedy.

The film also provides the only permanent record of a virtuoso gag that always stopped the show in her stage appearances. Toying with a rope of pearls around her neck, she gives it an incautious flip that causes it to snake around her body in a slow descending spiral, to finish at her ankles.

The film could never have had a more appreciative audience than Lillie herself. She picked up every gag and nuance, and laughed louder than anyone else in the audience. Afterwards she was still laughing as, happily but slightly surprised, she acknowledged the applause. She left the theatre firmly grasping her bag and raincoat, finally in command of those recalcitrant objects.

She clambered gaily into her car, and then leaned out. "I really enjoyed that," she said. "It's so funny. And she's so funny. And you know, she does things just like me! By the way, what's the title of that film?"

"*Exit Smiling*," I said.

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Paul Haynes

LONDON

YOUNG MASTERS CONCERT: All three musicians being players of the highest order, the Barbican Piano Trio is widely regarded as one of the leading British Ensembles of its generation and has performed at several international festivals. On tonight's programme are Haydn's *Piano Trio in E flat minor*, Lalo's *Trio No 3 in A minor* and Schubert's *Trio in E flat*.
Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W1 (071-935 2141). Tonight, 7.30pm.

BARBICAN EVENTS. This afternoon Daryl Griffith conducts the **London Concert Orchestra** for a **Ballet Gala**. Following last year's sell-out, there is a new programme of music and dance from the ballet greats including *Sleeping Beauty*, *The Nutcracker* and *Swan Lake*. Featuring principals and artists of the London City Ballet.
Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (071-638 8891). This afternoon, 3.00pm.

The Legend Lives on: As we approach the 50th anniversary of the ending of the Second World War, the **Glenn Miller Orchestra** recreates the Forties with a feast of all-time favourites in their original arrangements including *In the Mood*, *Moonlight Serenade* and *Chattanooga Choo Choo*. Performed in wartime US Air Force Band uniforms with The Moonlight Serenaders.
Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, 7.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM: BBC Children's TV presenter Simon Parkin hosts an afternoon's fun for bears, **Teddy Bears Concert**. The **London Concert Orchestra** plays a selection of tunes including, of course, *Teddy Bears' Picnic*. Also featuring the stories to the music of *The Emperor's New Clothes* and *The Ugly Duckling*. Special reductions for bear-holders.
Symphony Hall, Broad Street, (021-212 3333). This afternoon, 3.00pm.

Opera Gala Night: Paul Wynne Griffiths conducts the **London Concert Orchestra** in a treat for opera lovers, a programme of Mozart, Bizet, Verdi, Meyerbeer, Leoncavallo and Puccini. Featuring opera stars soprano Rosa Mannion, tenor Bonaventura Bottone and baritone Anthony Michaels-Moore as well as the English Concert Chorus.
Symphony Hall, Broad Street, (021-212 3333). Tonight, 7.30pm.

MANCHESTER CAMERATA. A varied programme including Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* and *Flute Concerto* "Goldfinch", Mozart's *Eine Kleine Nachtmusic* as well as works by Corelli and Pachelbel.
Free Trade Hall, Peter Street, Manchester (061-225 8357). Tonight, 7.30pm.

PLYMOUTH: The Theatre Royal presents an over-the-top production of *Aladdin*. Starring the glamorous Danny La Rue as the Widow Twankey, mother of Aladdin, alias Karl Howman of TV's *Brushstrokes*. With Gerald Harper provoking the boos and hisses.
Theatre Royal, Royal Parade, Plymouth (0752 267222). Tonight, 7.30pm; mat, 2.30pm. Until Feb 4.

LONDON GALLERIES

British Museum: Mexican Gallery; Prints of the Barbizon School; (071-636 1555) . . . **Hayward:** The Romantic Spirit in German Art 1790-1990 (071-928 3144) . . . **National Portrait Gallery:** The Sitwells, Christina Rossetti (071-306 0055) . . . **National Gallery:** The Young Michelangelo (071-839 3321) . . . **Royal Academy:** The Painted Page (071-439 7438) . . . **Serpentine:** Rebecca Horn (071-402 6075) . . . **Tate:** Whistler; Clore Gallery, Rebecca Horn (071-887 8000) . . . **V & A:** Kalighat: Indian Popular Painting 1800-1930; Nehru Gallery (071-938 8500) . . . **Whitechapel:** Worlds in a Box (071-522 7888)

Tickets available at time of going to press; please check box office.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London
■ House full, returns only
◩ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

◩ **THE BOAT PLAYS:** Sumptuously staged moralities by Gil Vicente, 16th-century Portugese playwright; the newly dead board vessels bound for Hell, Purgatory or (for a few) Heaven.
Gate, Prince Albert Pub, Pembridge Road, W11 (071-229 0706). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. No perf Dec 25-Jan 3.

◩ **A CHRISTMAS CAROL.** John Mortimer's adaptation, Ian Judge's direction and Clive Francis's Scrooge make this a cosy evening, well removed from the moral fervour of Dickens.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight-Dec 29, 7.15pm. Again from Jan 4.

◩ **GRIMM TALES:** Tim Supple's superb staging of these really bloodthirsty fables. An amazing evening. Unforgettable.
Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (071-928 6363). Mon-Sat, at different times. Until Jan 21.

☐ **MASKARADE:** Colourful but stiff recreation of the street theatre of Jamaica's slaves.
Cochrane, Southampton Row, WC1 (071-242 7040). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats on various days 2pm. No perf Jan 2. Until Jan 14.

☐ **MY NIGHT WITH REG.** John Sessions and David Bamber in Kevin Elyot's excellent, award-winning comedy with a dark edge. Six gay men caught up in a web of reticence and deception.
Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (071-839 4488). Mon-Tue, Thurs-Sat, 8pm; Wed, 6.30pm and 9.15pm; mat Sat, 4pm. Mat only Dec 30.

☐ **A PASSIONATE WOMAN:** Stephanie Cole plays a woman who'd rather sit on the roof and dream than attend her son's wedding: Ned Sherrin directs Kay Mellor's entertaining, though lightweight comedy.

Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (071-369 1731). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 4pm.

☐ **SKETCHES BY BOZ:** Six of Dickens's early character sketches, neatly dramatised and richly exploited for their comedy and melodrama.
BAC Arts Cafe, Lavender Hill, Battersea, SW11 (071-223 2223). Tue-Sat, 8.30pm; Sun, 6.30pm. No performances Jan 2.

■ **THREE TALL WOMEN:** Maggie Smith, Frances de la Tour and Anastasia Hille show how youthful high spirits petrify into grim old age. Superb performances in Edward Albee's powerful drama.
Wyndhams, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-369 1736). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

☐ **TWO WEEKS WITH THE QUEEN:** Play for family audiences adapted from Morris Gleitzman's excellent story of a 12-year-old boy who learns about death and the value of family love. Ayckbourn's staging gives it a touch of caricature but with compassion.
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight, 7.30pm; mat, 2.30.

☐ **WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND.** Three children find a fugitive in a barn and mistake him for Jesus. National Youth Music Theatre present the Russell Labey/Richard Taylor musical based on the popular film.
Riverside Studio 1, Crisp Rd, Hammersmith, W6 (081-741 2255). Dec 28-31, 7.30pm; mats Dec 28-31, 2.30pm. Until Dec 31.

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Arcadia:** Haymarket (071-930 8800) ☐ **Beautiful Thing:** Duke of York's (071-836 5122) . . ☐ **Blood Brothers:** Phoenix (071-867 1044) ☐ **Buddy:** Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ◩ **Cats:** New London (071-405 0072) . . . ☐ **Copacabana:** Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) . . ☐ **Crazy for You:** Prince Edward (071-734 8951) ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner:** Duchess (071-494 5070) . ☐ **Five Guys Named Moe:** Lyric (071-494 5045) ◩ **Grease:** Dominion (071-416 6060) ◩ **An Inspector Calls:** Aldwych (071-836 6404) . . . ◩ **Les Misérables:** Palace (071-434 0909) ◩ **Miss Saigon:** Theatre Royal (071-494 5400) ☐ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (071-836 1443) . ☐ **Neville's Island:** Apollo (071-494 5070) . ☐ **On Approval:** Playhouse (071-839 4401) . . ☐ **Once on This Island:** Island (Royalty), (071-494 5090) . . . ◩ **Only the Lonely:** Piccadilly (071-369 1734) . . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) . . . ◩ **The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie:** Strand (071-930 8800) . ☐ **The Queen and I:** Vaudeville (071-836 9987) . . . ☐ **She Loves Me:** Savoy (071-836 8888) . . ◩ **The Sisters Rosensweig:** Old Vic (071-928 7616) . . . ◩ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . ◩ **Sunset Boulevard:** Adelphi (071-344 0055) . . ◩ **Woman in Black:** Fortune (071-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre. **Correct at time of going to press; please check box office.**

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **D2: THE MIGHTY DUCKS** (U): Stale adventures of America's ice hockey team in the Junior Goodwill Games. With Emilio Estevez. Director, Sam Weisman.
Odeons: Kensington (0426-914 666) **Mezzanine** (0426-915 683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426-914 098) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner West End** (071-437 4343)

◆ **THE SPECIALIST** (15): Sharon Stone hires explosives expert Sylvester Stallone to avenge her parents' murder. This is an empty concoction that wastes its well-paid stars. With James Woods, Eric Roberts, Rod Steiger. Director, Luis Llosa.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** (071-727 6705) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner West End** (071-437 4343)

CURRENT

CRONOS (18): An alchemist's device offers eternal youth and a taste for blood. Imaginative Mexican vampire film from promising director Guillermo del Toro.
Gate (071-727 4043) **Metro** (071-437 0757)

DEAR DIARY (15): Delightful, freewheeling film journal from Italian actor-director Nanni Moretti.
Curzon West (071-369 1722) **Notting Hill Coronet** (071-727 6705) **Renoir** (071-837 8402)

◆ **FORREST GUMP** (12): Endearing if indulgent odyssey through post-war America. With Tom Hanks.
Empire (0800 888911) **MGMs: Baker St** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Rd** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

I LOVE TROUBLE (PG): Romantic comedy thriller that fails to match its vintage Hollywood models. With Julia Roberts and Nick Nolte; director, Charles Shyer.
Odeon Mezzanine (0426 915683) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

IT COULD HAPPEN TO YOU (PG): Bland comedy about a winning lottery ticket, with Nicolas Cage, Bridget Fonda and Rosie Perez. Director, Andrew Bergman.
UCI Whiteleys (071-792 3332)

◆ **JUNIOR** (PG): Juvenile jokes abound as muscle-bound Arnold Schwarzenegger gets pregnant in the name of science. With Emma Thompson and Danny DeVito. Director, Ivan Reitman.
Empire (0800-888 911) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

THE LAST SEDUCTION (18): Enjoyably amoral tale of sex, power and $700,000, with Linda Fiorentino as the femme fatale to end them all. Director, John Dahl.
Electric (071-792 2020) **MGM Piccadilly** (071-437 3561)

◆ **THE MASK** (PG): The story of a strange mask which turns mild bank employee into a wisecracking demon. Inventive vehicle for rubber-faced Jim Carrey, filled with the antic spirit of 1940s cartoons.
MGMs Fulham Road (071-370 2636) (Screens 3 and 4 only) **Panton Street** (071-930 0631) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772) **Screen/Hill** (071-435 3366) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

◆ **MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET** (U): John Hughes's gooey but nevertheless just about digestible remake of the 1947 fantasy, with Richard Attenborough as a department store Santa.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426 915683) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (792 3332)

MY FAIR LADY (U): Resplendent restored print of the famous 1964 musical, with Rex Harrison, Audrey Hepburn, very familiar tunes and Edwardian finery galore. Directed by George Cukor.
MGM Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 6279) **Gate** (071-727 4043)

◆ **THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS** (PG). The King of Hallowe'en tries to take over Christmas. Technically brilliant puppet fantasy conceived by Tim Burton, directed by Henry Selick.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426-915 574) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

SLEEP WITH ME (18): LA friends party, play poker and suffer in love. Uneven first feature by Rory Kelly, featuring Eric Stoltz, Meg Tilly.
MGM Panton Street (071-930 0631) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666)

TRIAL BY JURY (15): Will juror Joanne Whalley-Kilmer submit to Mafia pressure? Laughable courtroom drama, with Gabriel Byrne, William Hurt, Armand Assante
MGMs: Trocadero (071-434 0031)

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

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UNTIL 7 JANUARY Today, Sat & Mon 2.30 & 7.30, Tomor 7.30

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL 071 928 8800
English National Ballet
THE NUTCRACKER
21 Dec - 14 Jan
Eves 7.30pm, Mats (Until 2 Jan, 7, 11, 14 Jan) 2.30pm. No perfs Sun

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 071 304 4000 for Box Off & Standby info. Tickets avail on the day
The Royal Ballet
Tomor, Sat, Tue 7.30 CINDERELLA Wed 7.30
THE SLEEPING BEAUTY
"Stunning" Daily Mail

STATE OPERA IN VIENNA Tickets, Travel & Season Guide (Jan-Jun). Austria On-Line, 10 Wardour St, London W1V 4BQ. 071 434 7399

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THEATRES

ADELPHI
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SUNSET BOULEVARD
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Until 7th Jan except Thurs eves
24HR CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS CALL 071 344 0055 (bkg fee)
GRP BOOKING 071 413 3302 (bkg fee)
NO BOOKING FEE FOR PERSONAL CALLERS AT THE ADELPHI BOX OFFICE
Recorded Information 071 379 8884
Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00
BETTY BUCKLEY returns on 9 Jan

ALBERY WC2 Tel BO 071 369 1730 Acc 071 344 4444 Grps 413 3321
PATRICIA ROUTLEDGE
"MAGNIFICENT" D.Exp
& RICHARD JOHNSON
in The Chichester Festival Theatre production of
THE RIVALS
by RICHARD BRINSLEY SHERIDAN
"A DELIGHT" D.Mail
Directed by Richard Cottrell
Eves 7.30 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00
LIMITED SEASON ENDS 14 JAN

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ALDWYCH 071 836 6404/CC 497 9977/ 344 4444 (bkg fee)
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The Royal National Theatre production of J.B.Priestley's
AN INSPECTOR CALLS
WINNER OF 19 MAJOR AWARDS
LAST 4 WEEKS
MUST END 21 JAN 1995
WORLD TOUR OPENS AUSTRALIA 14 FEB
"THEATRICAL PERFECTION" Today
Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 5 & 8.15pm, Wed Mat 2.30pm

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MICHAEL SIBERRY PAUL RAFFIELD
NEVILLE'S ISLAND
A COMEDY IN THICK FOG
by TIM FIRTH
"THE MOST DAZZLING PLAY OF OUR TIMES" D.Mail's Jack Tinker (in E.Std)
"Superb" D.Tel
"Ingenious" Guardian
"VERY, VERY FUNNY" Today
Mon-Fri 8, Sat 8.30
Mats Wed 2.30 & Sat 5

APOLLO VICTORIA cc 071 416 6043 cc 24hrs 071 344 4444/071 497 9977 Grps 071 416 6075/071 413 3321
Andrew Lloyd Webber's New production of
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"A REBORN THEATRICAL DELIGHT" Daily Mail
White knuckle runs 19.45 daily
Tue & Sat 15.00 Tickets from £10.00
Extra Mat 29 Dec at 3pm

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RON MOODY NICOLA STAPLETON
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PETER PAN
THE BRITISH MUSICAL
Eves (not Mon) 7.30pm, Mats 29-31 Dec, 3, 4 & 7 Jan at 2.30pm

COMEDY BO 071 369 1731 cc 344 4444 Grps 413 3321
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A PASSIONATE WOMAN
"The most ingenious and funny comedy in town" Standard
By KAY MELLOR
Directed by NED SHERRIN
Mon-Sat 8pm Mats Wed 3pm, Sat 4pm
Special Xmas Mat Today at 3pm

CRITERION THEATRE 071 839 4488 071 344 4444/497 9970
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Anthony Calf Joe Duttine
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Tonight 8pm
"Wonderfully witty and perceptive play...a real must see" Daily Express
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SOME GREAT SEATS AVAILABLE MON - THUR

DUCHESS cc 071 494 5070 cc 344 4444 (no bkg fee)/836 2428 (bkg fee) 071-413 3321 Eves 8pm, Wed mat 3pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30
29 Dec 3pm & 8pm.
No perf 26 Dec
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JOHN NORMINGTON MICHAEL GRANDAGE
Susan Hill's
THE WOMAN IN BLACK
Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt
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SPECIAL HOLIDAY SEASON
Until 21 Jan
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BEST PLAY OF THE YEAR
Eve Standard Drama Award 1993
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LYTTLETON Today 2.15 & 7.30, Tomor 7.30 THE CHILDREN'S HOUR Lillian Hellman
COTTESLOE Today 2.30 & 7.30 TWO WEEKS WITH THE QUEEN Adapted by Mary Morris from the novel by Morris Gleitzman. Tomor 7.30 ALICE'S ADVENTURE UNDER GROUND adapted from Lewis Carroll by Christopher Hampton in collaboration with Martha Clarke

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Extra Matinee Today at 3pm
LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION, PLEASE BE PROMPT.
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Hit Comedy by Wendy Wasserstein
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Season Extended to February 25

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ALL SINGING ALL DANCING ALL GERSHWIN
CRAZY FOR YOU
"IS A GREAT, GLORIOUS, GLAMOROUS GOLDMINE OF A SHOW" S. Times
Eves 7.45, Mats Thu & Sat 3.00
GOOD SEATS AVAILABLE THIS WEEK

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"A HUGE HIT" Ind
The New Musical Starring GARY WILMOT
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Mon-Sat 7.30 Mat Sat 2.30

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(0171 638 8891)
BARBICAN: A CHRISTMAS CAROL Today 2.00 & 7.15
THE PIT: NEW ENGLAND Today 2.00 & 7.15
STRATFORD (01789 295623)
RST: A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM Today 1.30, HENRY V Ton't 7.30
SWAN: THE WIVES' EXCUSE Today 1.30, PEER GYNT Ton't 7.30
TOP: PENTECOST Tomor 7.30

ROYAL COURT 071-730 1745/2554 cc 836 2428 (24hrs) 836 5122
THE LIBERTINE By Stephen Jeffreys ton't at 7.30

SADLER'S WELLS 071 278 8916 cc 071 344 4444/071 240 7200 Groups 071 413 3321/071 930 6123
For a limited season until Jan 22
Roy Hudd Geoffrey Hughes
Keith Barron in
"BABES IN THE WOOD"
The Spectacular Traditional Pantomime
2.30 & 7.00 daily (except certain perfs)

SAVOY 071 836 8888 cc 24hr/7 days no bkg fee 497 9977 Grps 413 3321/831 2771
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SHE LOVES ME
"BY FAR THE BEST MUSICAL IN TOWN" F.T.
Mon-Sat 7.45, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00
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ST MARTIN'S 836 1443 (no bkg fee) 071 497 9977 (bkg fee)/Groups 071 312 1994 (no bkg fee)
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43rd Year of Agatha Christie's
THE MOUSETRAP

STRAND 071 930 8800/ CC 071 344 4444 (24hrs, 7 days, no fee)
PATRICIA HODGE in
"Magnificent" S.Express
THE PRIME OF MISS JEAN BRODIE
"Hugely entertaining" D.Tel
Mon-Sat 7.45, Mats Thurs & Sat 2.30

VAUDEVILLE BO/CC 836 9987 CC 071 497 9977
SUE TOWNSEND'S
THE QUEEN AND I
A RIGHT ROYAL ROMP
"As Di might say, it's a Fabulous evening...very funny indeed" Tdy
Mon-Sat 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3
Extra mat on Dec 30 at 3.00

VICTORIA PALACE Box Off & cc (No bkg fee) 071 834 1317 CC (bkg fee) 071-344 4444/497 9977 Groups 071 413 3321/071 930 6123
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"BRILLIANT" Sun
* BUDDY *
"WONDERFUL STUFF" Sun Tel
* BUDDY *
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Sat 5.00 & 8.30.
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Dec 31 5.00 ONLY
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ALL SEATS ½ PRICE FRIDAY 5.30 PERF
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FRANCES DE LA TOUR
ANASTASIA HILLE
EDWARD ALBEE'S
THREE TALL WOMEN
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Edited by Denis Conlon
Ignatius Press, £34.95/£25.95 pbk each

There is, it seems, a move afoot to have G.K. Chesterton beatified. The author of the most celebrated telegram in the English language ("Am at Market Harborough. Where ought I to be?") is greatly admired in Argentina, and a number of establishment figures there have appealed to Cardinal Hume to set the ball rolling, drawing attention to GKC's efforts "to rebuild the Catholic imagination and sensitivity of England".

I suspect the fat man in the cloak and brigand's hat would have found this hugely entertaining — almost as entertaining as the knowledge that the Ignatius Press in San Francisco is intent on collecting and publishing every fleeting word he ever wrote. This awesome enterprise has already resulted in 14 volumes, and there are many more to come.

"You seem to know everything," gushed an admiring lady at one of his lectures. "I know nothing, Madam," Chesterton replied. "I am a journalist." And some. From 1905 until his death in 1936 he wrote a weekly article for the *Illustrated London News*; for 11 years he also wrote a column in the teetotal George Cadbury's *Daily News*, but this association was abruptly terminated when GKC rashly but innocently published "A Song of Strange Drinks", which contained the line "Cocoa is a cad and a coward". He wrote in cabs, on trains and in the pubs of Fleet Street — not just journalism, but thousands of poems; not just the Father Brown stories, but essays on theology and politics; not just plays and novels, but fairy tales, biographies and literary criticism.

"Taking trouble has never been a weakness of mine," he announced cheerfully (in describing the battle of Ethandune in "The Ballad of the White Horse", he has the left wings of the opposing armies facing each other). He quoted from memory and didn't believe in looking things up. Early in his career he dashed off a study of Robert Browning: "There were very few biographical facts in the book," he wrote, "and those were nearly all wrong." None of which prevented Auden from declaring he had written some of the best nonsense verse in the language, Evelyn Waugh from rating *The Everlasting Man* as one of the few really great popular books of the century, and André Maurois from saluting *Charles Dickens* as one of the best biographies ever written.

His friend Hilaire Belloc called him an architect of certitude — "he taught men to see what they had not seen before". His publisher asserts sweepingly that he was the most quotable writer of the century. We must perhaps aim off a point or two for co-religionist zeal, but someone who defined bigotry as "the anger of men who have no opinion" and wrote of Tennyson that "he could not think up to the height of his own towering style" certainly deserves a place on a long shortlist. "Our Lord turned water into wine, not into ginger beer," Chesterton informed an American journalist during Prohibition. On another occasion he had advice for conviction politicians of any nationality: "The men who really believe in themselves are all in lunatic asylums."

In their day, his poems were hugely popular. One collection went into 15 editions in his lifetime. I don't know how they fare nowadays under the national curriculum, but an inventory of the mental furniture of an older generation would undoubtedly contain many Chestertonian pieces — "The Donkey", "Lepanto", "The Rolling English Road" and, from the dark wartime days of 1915, "The Secret People": "Smile at us, pay us, pass us; but do not quite forget./ For we are the people of England, that never have spoken yet."

The Head Master of Douai once said of him that he did not go to confession very often, but that when he did, "you could hear him all over the church". At the turn of the century, Chesterton's distinctive voice could be heard all over the country; it was largely his anti-imperialist writing about the Boer War which made his reputation. From 1926 until his death he was much involved with the Distributist League, which drew its inspiration from Pope Leo XIII's *Rerum Novarum* and aimed to make as many people as possible the owners of property. That should not prove an obstacle to canonisation, although his acknowledged anti-Semitism might — even if, rather unusually, it went hand-in-hand with an enthusiasm for Zionism.

He was a polemicist of rare quality, but he wrote and spoke always with such good humour that he seldom made enemies. To the more acerbic Belloc, his gentleness was almost a matter for reproach: "He wounded none, but thus also he failed to provide weapons wherewith one may wound and kill folly."

Chesterton regarded his Father Brown stories as potboilers. When a first collection of them appeared in 1911, a reviewer in *Country Life* felt they should have been left in the pages of a magazine, "where their effect, not being cumulative, would have been greater". A similar thought may strike those who plunge into the potpourri of fiction presented here — 800 pages of short stories and fairy tales, assembled from published sources or transcribed from Chesterton's notebooks.

Admirers of the "little Suffolk dumpling from East Anglia", with his brown paper parcels and his battered umbrella, will no doubt be pleased to have "Father Brown and the Donnington Affair" and "The Mask of Midas", the two lost stories included here, but the quality of much of what has been collected, a good deal of it juvenilia, is distinctly uneven. Could it be that Chesterton's propensity for sending cartloads of paper to the municipal dump indicated a more rigorous editorial sense than that of the Ignatius Press?



G.K. Chesterton and friend: quotable, prolific, often inaccurate but always good-humoured, he furnished the minds of a generation

Curious ceilidhs

Gillian Bowditch

A HISTORY MAKER
By Alasdair Gray
Canongate, £13.99

THE time is sometime in the future, the place a derelict cottage in the Scottish Highlands. A group of outcast authors huddle round a small fire telling tales. There is a hush while the senior author in the group clears his throat, swigs from a bottle of The Macallan and begins: "Mist from the sea covers the hill where a small army lies . . ."

This is how I like to imagine Alasdair Gray composed his latest novel, *A History Maker*: a tale of war, sex, and science fiction set in the Scotland of the 23rd century. In reality, he probably composed it on a word processor in his study, which is a pity.

As a tale told round a camp fire, *A History Maker* would make a satisfying end to a hard day's trek. Flights of fancy can improve a yarn spun on the spur of the moment.

As a novel, even one enlivened by Gray's idiosyncratic illustrations, it is unsatisfying. It is a short book trying to impart some big ideas. Reading it is like dancing "Strip the Willow" for the first time. By the time you have worked out that there is a pattern to the demented whirling, the dance is nearly over.

The dust jacket suggests that *A History Maker* is a response to the criticism that Gray's books are "insufficiently Scottish". The language, the setting and even the cover — under the dust jacket it depicts Robert the Bruce's spider and the legend "Try Again Scotland" — are as Scottish as can be, but the tale itself could have been set anywhere. It gave me no sense of my native land.



Gray: elaborate allegory

The main character is Wat Dryhope, archetypal Scots male, a dissatisfied warrior and reluctant hero of an important, innovative and bloody battle. Like most Scottish triumphs, it is a Pyrrhic victory.

Scotland is ruled by women, as some would claim it has always been. The extended family is the main unit and governments, banks, secret societies and inequality have been done away with. Central to life is the Power Plant, a species of vegetation which supplies everything needed for human existence — an adult version of Charlie's chocolate factory. No home should be without one.

The book can be read on several levels. As a straightforward romp it is amusing, ironic and tongue-in-cheek. Gray shamelessly drops names from the Scottish literary scene, but the characters are sketchy and it is difficult to sympathise with them. As a vision of the 23rd century it is unbelievable and as an allegory it is heavy-handed. The large glossary of notes and explanations are almost as long as the novel itself. I found them pretentious.

The book is a curiosity, though not one I would rush out to buy. However, I would sit round a camp fire and listen to Gray's tales any night, as long as he provided the Scotch.

Scottish world tour

Magnus Linklater

ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF SCOTLAND
Edited by John Keay and Julia Keay
HarperCollins, £30
THE SCOTTISH FIDDLE MUSIC INDEX
Edited by Charles Gore
The Amaising Publishing House, £49

From one small corner of Argyll, published in the same month, come two extraordinary books, works of serious research and a grand historical sweep that leave one slightly stunned. These are not the products of highly trained academic teams working from some well-endowed computer-lined campus, but a husband and wife team whose home is in the hills above the village of Dalmally, and an eccentric but wholly dedicated player of Scottish fiddle music, living in conditions of organised chaos ten miles away on Loch Etive.

Between them they have taken 13 years to produce what are, in their different ways, milestone works which should become indispensable for anyone who takes a serious interest in Scotland and its culture.

John and Julia Keays began compiling their *Encyclopaedia of Scotland* seven years ago. To begin with they were not certain whether such a thing already existed, then discovered that while there were Scots dictionaries and histories by the yard, there was a gap when it came to encyclopaedias. Gradually the project grew to become a gazetteer, a biographical dictionary, and a historical reference work rolled into one.

Constrained by funds, they drew on a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, both inside and outside the academic world, to compile a list of entries which runs from Aaron Scotus, an 11th-century music theorist, to Zetland, the old norse word for Shetland which the authors include, "for want of other words beginning with Z".

The sharp-eyed reader will notice that a healthy proportion of contributors come from Argyll and the west, while many of the more obvious experts are missing. Neither of these seem to me a disadvantage. The decentralised approach lends a freshness and unpredictability to much of the work.

It also means that there is an even-handedness not always evident in a Scottish reference book. The Union with England is described as unavoidable though resented; Bonnie Prince Charlie is commended for his taste in music but roundly condemned for cowardice and selfishness; William III is "odious but not silly, and with a penchant for choirboys which protected his person from syphilis and his country from a Dutch heir"; David Hume, apart from believing that reason is and should be slave to human passions, was also passionate about cooking; the great disruption of the kirk in 1843 weakened the Church of Scotland but also awakened the country's social conscience.

I was also enchanted, on turning to the entry for my father, the author Eric Linklater, to read: "Linklater chanced to be born in South Wales. This he forgot so thoroughly that even *The Times* obituary stated he had been born in Dounby, Orkney."

The encyclopaedia is on less certain ground when it comes to post-war Scotland. There is no lack of reference to recent history in passages on Scottish institutions and places. But the authors state that "only the dead qualify for entries of their own and there may be a slight prejudice against the recently deceased". This means inconsistencies, like a picture of Lord Home of the Hirsel (still very much alive) but no entry except under Home, Lordship of; an entry for that great Secretary of State, Tom Johnston, who died in 1965, but none for Willie Ross, an equally important holder of that office, who died 20 years later; Sean Connery is mentioned under Usher Hall (he appeared there), and Billy Connolly under Easterhouse (he called it "a desert wi' windaes"), but not under cinema or television, for which there are no entries, though there is one for theatre.

This, however, is to quibble — the most difficult decision about an encylopaedia must be where to draw the line. In compensation there are delights, such as the entry on Corrour, the railway station so obscure that its existence is often denied, and where sheep appreciate the shelter of the waiting-room. Or Ewen Macphee, outlaw, "a man of vast proportions and wild appearance" who lived on an island in the middle of Loch Quoich and raised a family "after persuading a 14-year old girl to share his dreary kingdom"; and just to show that anti-Scots prejudice is nothing new, there is a vitriolic verse from Horace Walpole, inveighing against royal favouritism towards the Adam brothers: "O Scotland, long has it been said/Thy teeth are sharp for English bread. . ."

Just as remarkable a work is Charles Gore's *The Scottish Fiddle Music Index*, a labour of love by a man renowned for his own playing in dance bands up and down the west coast of Scotland. Gore has collected together every fiddle tune in every collection of 18th and 19th-century music the length and breadth of Scotland and beyond. It is, as the author states, "not so much a work of original research as a design for the retrieval of a great natural resource — the traditional fiddle music of Scotland". For the past six years and more he and his assistant, Morag Anne Elder, have been burrowing into libraries, private collections and arcane sources of written music, to uncover many thousands of different tunes, composed, written down, and then, all too often, forgotten.

Not only that, he has developed a computerised index which will allow you to trace a tune even if you can only whistle the first few bars. A complex coding system will identify the title, tell you who wrote it and then guide you to where it can be found. It is based on a scheme first developed by the late Breandan Breathnach, the Irish traditional music expert, but only now, through the use of computer technology, has it been possible to reduce it to its essentials and publish it in a single impressive volume.

The index does not make gentle bedside reading. In fact page after page carry nothing but incomprehensible lists of figures and letters. But in its way it is as important a work as the recordings of Gaelic music made by John Lorne Campbell and his wife Margaret in Barra and South Uist in the 1930s, or Alan Lomax's researches into the origins of American folk music.

We are lucky to have both these books, and to know that the great British tradition of the gifted amateur, driven only by enthusiasm and dedication, is still thriving.

Raiders of the lost treasure

Norman Hammond

THE LOST TREASURES OF TROY
By Caroline Moorehead
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £20

There are two tales of Troy: Homer's and Heinrich Schliemann's. The first tells of the ten-year siege of an Aegean city, the second of the 20-year campaign to rediscover the toppled towers of Ilium. The latest episode, the half-century odyssey of the "Great Treasure" of gold and silver that Schliemann found beside the Dardanelles in 1873, helps Caroline Moorehead to bring a sense of immediacy to a classic story of archaeological derring-do.

Schliemann reinvented himself more often than Madonna: the storybook history of the little boy at his pastor father's knee, thrilling at the *Iliad* and thenceforth determined to find the vanished city, is pure fiction. So is the subsequent dedication of his life to making enough money to take early retirement and pursue his dream. Schliemann was certainly dedicated to earning money: he was spectacularly successful in the indigo trade in St Petersburg and the gold rush in California; but even India and the Great Wall of China, described in his diaries in scrupulous detail, aroused no romantic inspiration.

By 1868, however, extremely rich and commanding an amazing range of languages, the 46-year-old Schliemann had found his obsession and was off to search for Homer's Troy. The rough location had long been known but in 1822 the editor of *The Scotsman* Charles Maclaren, fixed on the mound of Hissarlik in the plain of the Troad; Frank Calvert, part-owner of the site, gave a paper at the Archaeological Institute in London in 1864 confirming the identification. When Schliemann arrived, his first choice was five miles away, at Pinarbashi. Calvert converted him, aided him and was shamefully treated both in person and in print for his pains.

Schliemann drove a huge trench through the mound, finding seven major occupation levels: the second from the bottom he decided was "Priam's Palace". The treasures that he found were "Helen's jewels" and his second wife Sophia was duly photographed wearing them.

Grandiose claims in articles for *The Times* and the *Augsburger Allegemeine Zeitung* aroused public admiration and professional ire: Gladstone spoke of this "real objective Troy" and Schliemann's "splendid example of disinterested sacrifice", while Ernst Curtius, the excavator of Olympia, snorted at the "dilettante treasure seeker".



Schliemann: derring-do

The "Great Treasure", an impressive collocation of copper, silver, and gold vessels, weapons and jewellery, was smuggled out of Turkey and eventually given "to the German people in perpetual possession".

Schliemann moved on to dig at Mycenae, before returning to Troy at the end of his life, still believing that he had found proof of Homer. He had in fact uncovered a Bronze Age civilisation centuries older and undreamed of by his scholarly detractors. He had also, as this book shows, lied consistently about how he had done it.

The treasure vanished in 1945 from the fortified flak tower at the Berlin Zoo. In 1991, art historians Konstantin Akinsha and Grigorii Kozlov, tracked it down to the cellars of Moscow's Pushkin Museum; in 1993 the Russian government admitted it was there, and now plans to show the finds abroad. Moorehead's entertaining revisionist view of Schliemann's life is in keeping with the convoluted history of the Trojan treasure itself.

Poetry in its place

Stephen Logan

POETS TALKING
Edited by Clive Wilmer
Carcanet, £12.95

IT IS widely rumoured that a renaissance in English poetry is under way. But it does not take the form widely attributed to it by the organisers of last October's "National Poetry Day". Poetry ministers to what might be called our spiritual needs. Yet our culture at large no longer takes such needs very seriously.

Poets have a choice. Either they can dilute the principles of their art so as to make it palatable to a largely indifferent public. Or they can maintain a steadfast concern for the intricacies of technique, rather than try to curry favour by making concessions. In short poetry can adapt itself to an increasingly unliterary culture, or else that culture can adapt itself to poetry. It is an old story, now more than ever in need of retelling: "Poetry must create the taste by which it is to be enjoyed".

The National Poetry Day jamboree took the popular option, casting poems in the image of contemporary culture: informal, undemanding, free of tradition, and ultimately expendable. Clive Wilmer, himself a poet of distinction, along with the 21 diverse poets he has interviewed here, has taken a sterner course.

These interviews constitute a credo on behalf of a tradition that unites Donald Davie, Thom Gunn, Tony Harrison, Ted Hughes and Seamus Heaney with Spenser, Shakespeare, Milton, Pope, Wordsworth, and Eliot. It is a tradition that regards poetry as a learned art, a profession which, in spite of a culturally sanctioned indifference, bears witness to the best that has been thought and felt.

Seamus Heaney is about as popular as a poet can currently get. But to appreciate the soft plagency of his voice (in speech as in verse) or the prodemocratic value of his concern for the "hearth language" of a community, requires familiarity with the history of English verse, as well as an interviewer as learned, tactful and incisive as Wilmer to elicit the evidence.

Tony Harrison, too, has the kind of popular appeal that proceeds more directly from classical and prosodic learning than seems to be acknowledged by those who acclaim him as a sort of poetic demagogue. The ability of poets to speak for the people depends on the acquisition of linguistic skills that the people often slight. Poets (and their readers) need to be informed before they can be inspired.

Wilmer's interviews are perhaps the best introduction to the personalities and the principles that inform the poems. They provide an invigorating exhibition of creative talent in its easy-chair. The lessons they afford are chiefly these. First, that the task of recording the history of sensibility is important enough to have commanded the dedication of such diversely gifted individuals as Czeslaw Milosz, Michael Longley, C.H. Sisson and John Peck. Second, that these, the inheritors of a poetic tradition which they (and Wilmer with them) lovingly conserve, are especially to be heeded as critics of their own art.

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What can fairy tales mean to adults who left the realms of fiery dragons and wicked witches years ago? **Rachel Cusk** finds out

Then we all lived happily ever after

THE DJINN IN THE NIGHTINGALE'S EYE: *Five Fairy Stories*
By A.S. Byatt
Chatto & Windus, £9.99

An "adult" fairy story — a term some might use to describe novels — is a curious thing. In childhood, when imagination is more abundant than experience and the fabulous can hold sway over the real, fantastical worlds are annexes of everyday life, easily entered. How, then, once those passages have been bricked up by cynicism, refutation or disbelief, can we be expected to find our way back to what would seem at worst to be a state of credulity, or at best a mild imaginative break from a reality implicitly exhausted of interest?

The answer, at least in A.S. Byatt's collection of five fairy stories, is to provide a critique of the genre rather than an example of it, a scheme which relies more on the memory of belief — a lulling into reminiscence of a time when princesses, dragons and three wishes were all acutely tangible — than its exercise.

"The Djinn in the Nightingale's Eye" is the most substantial of the stories and also the most finely turned on the twilit axis of what is real and what is imagined. "Once upon a time," it begins, "when men and women hurtled through the air on metal wings, when they wore webbed feet and walked on the bottom of the sea . . ." The time is, of course, the 20th century, and the heroine not a princess but a successful English narratologist, "a being of secondary order", called Gillian Perholt. Her business is stories, "interpreting, decoding the fairy-tales of childhood and the vodka posters of the grown-up world, the unending romances of golden coffee-drinkers, and the impeded couplings of doctors and nurses, dukes and poor maidens."

Her own story so far is less successful: estranged from her children, informed by a fax from her husband that he has abandoned her for a younger woman, she is thereby liberated to wander into a fairy tale, ripe for rescue by magic. At a narratologists' conference in Ankara on "Stories of Women's Lives", she finds herself untethered at the brink of a narrated world, and when she happens upon a small flask made of nightingale's eye glass in a Turkish market, she enters it. The flask contains a djinn, a being "formed of subtle fire" who inhabits a realm between humans and angels and has magic powers. Gillian's djinn, imprisoned in the flask for thousands of years and bound to grant three wishes to whomever releases him, materialises in her hotel room to do her bidding.

Byatt's success is owed firstly to the comic nature of the djinn, and his encounter with Gillian — he is fascinated, for example, by live tennis on the television and summons Boris Becker to their hotel room, before making him fall over on court — and secondly to the intricacy with which she weaves Turkish and other folklores into Gillian's story, so that the djinn's appearance seems quite natural.


Antonia Byatt: manipulating conventions

The stories within the story are beautifully told: the fabulous, Byatt implies, is made palpable, made to live, in the ordinary through the telling. The magic of women as storytellers is revered, "for this was a time when women were privileged, when female narratologists . . revealed mysteries and kept watch at the boundaries of correctness". Gillian's level-headedness, her refusal to meddle in her own story — her wishes are not greedy, but small and personal — is a statement of this continuity.

The four remaining stories play on the formalities of fairy tales, carrying a germ of fable beneath a set of cleverly manipulated conventions. In "The Glass Coffin", a journeying tailor in search of work becomes the unwitting hero of a story involving an old man in a forest, a quest, a beautiful girl imprisoned by the black arts of a magician, and a castle. "You must be the one I have been waiting for," cries the girl, when the tailor releases her from her glass coffin. "You must be the Prince." The tailor informs her that all he is looking for is "honest work", having first examined the fine craftsmanship of the castle imprisoned in a dome beside her. The girl nonetheless offers him her hand in marriage as part of the contract for being released from a spell, to which the tailor replies that she'd better take her time and "feel free to reconsider the matter".

Similarly, in "The Story of the Eldest Princess", a princess realises that she is trapped in a fairy tale quest, with whose formula she is quite familiar and whose ending she knows will not be in her favour, being the eldest of three girls. She opts instead for the inevitable old woman in the forest, with whom she is happy to sit telling stories rather than enacting them. "Gode's Story", taken, like "The Glass Coffin", from the novel *Possession*, is a tale of anti-romance, in which two lovers are brought down by qualities which do not belong in fairy tales: infidelity, depression and madness.

In "Dragon's Breath", a peaceful mountain village is threatened by a plague of vast, stinking, demonic worms which slide inch by inch down their valley, destroying everything in their path. The villagers, who until this horror had suffered from monotony, and boredom, began after it "to tell tales about the coming of the worms" which "became, in time, charms against boredom for their children and grandchildren". This striking image of narrative genesis is accompanied by an apt surmisal of all five of these wonderful stories, and of course their progenitors: fairy tales, Byatt says, are "riddling hints of the true relations between peace and beauty and terror".

BACKLIST
Other fiction by A.S. Byatt
THE GAME
1967, Penguin
THE VIRGIN IN THE GARDEN
1978, Penguin
STILL LIFE
1985, Chatto/Penguin
SUGAR AND OTHER STORIES
1987, Chatto/Penguin
POSSESSION
1987, Chatto/Penguin
ANGELS AND INSECTS
1992, Chatto/Penguin

Painting a broad canvas

ART HISTORY

Any book which contains a reproduction of the *Boy with a Drawing* attributed to Giovanni Francesco Caroto cannot be all bad. Norbert Schneider's **The Art of the Portrait** *(Taschen, £11.99 pbk original)* does so, which is hugely in its favour, but it is altogether less reassuring that the author sums it up with the sentence: "As an essay in art theory, the painting therefore also revitalises dogmatic approaches to artistic method."

In spite of occasional moments of gobbledegook, the formula here is popular enough, with a general introducton giving way to a more detailed consideration of individual works. These are organised according to categories, so that Popes and Rulers or Women and Children are carefully segregated. This makes it hard to appreciate chronological developments as we are propelled back and forth across the centuries, but there is a more serious problem with such an approach. Whereas "Artists' Self-Portraits", for instance, represents a genuine type, "Teste Composte" means Arcimboldo and nothing else, while the section on "Portraits of Regents" is confined to Frans Hals. At least the illustrations are plentiful and well-chosen, although not always adequately faithful to the appearance of the originals.

Jonathan Feinberg warns us what to expect in the subtitle of his Art since 1940 *(Laurence King, £25)* by talking about "Strategies of Being", strategy being one of those weasel words designed to make any sane person reach for the revolver. Nevertheless, this is an eminently serious and invariably lucid attempt to make sense of a complex and difficult subject. The main warning to prospective buyers is that Feinberg is American, and — perhaps rightly — regards most of the important developments as having taken place on his side of the Atlantic.

Lucian Freud is basically a Fifties phenomenon, and rates only two illustrations, whereas David Hockney, maybe because he is an honorary Californian, scores an impressive five. The likes of Baselitz and Kiefer are certainly not excluded either, but are not nearly as important as Andy Warhol or Jasper Johns. A particularly illuminating feature is Feinberg's interest in the early works of the heroes of the avant-garde, which include a magnificent hyper-realist De Kooning *Still Life*, drawn when he was about 17, and a *Subway Scene* of 1938 by Mark Rothko, which is not easily linked to his later achievements.

More ambitious in scope by far is Sister Wendy Beckett's **The Story of Painting** *(Dorling Kindersley, £25)*. There are no fewer than 11 editors and managers listed in the front of the book, not forgetting Patricia Wright, who is the contributing consultant. Clearly this is a work that follows the best renaissance and baroque precedents, and involves collaboration between master and workshop. A less than perfectly monitored *bottega* probably explains the fact that Pontormo's portrait of Cosimo de' Medici (probably), who lived from 1519-1574, illustrates a discussion of his forebear and namesake, whose dates are 1389-1464, while Raphael's *Portrait of Pope Julius II* is reproduced in reverse.

For the rest, however, a great deal of the authentic voice of the attributing nun rings forth, especially when it comes to her specialist subject, which is sex not religion. Indeed, she may call Fra Angelico a monk when he was a friar, but she is spot on when it comes to explaining why Rubens's "full-bodied woman" does not appeal to what she calls "our taste". It may be slightly depressing that the BBC thinks great paintings need to be sold with the help of a wimple and delighted discussions of pubic hair, where once Kenneth Clark in his tweeds would have done the trick, but at least Sister Wendy is a genuine enthusiast, and that comes across in this generally well-balanced survey. The only trickery here concerns the fact that it is published "In association with the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC", which explains the occasionally odd choice of illustrations, notably of Raphaels. Similarly, Sister Wendy expatiates on *A Mystic Marriage of St Catherine* by Correggio in the Louvre, but the reproduction is of a totally different painting in DC.

The Art Book *(Phaidon, £19.99)* is a remarkably handsomely illustrated A-Z of somebody's top 500 artists, which could serve as an excellent *point de départ* for an arty-party game. Can you work out who's in and who's out, and better yet can you guess which single work is chosen to encapsulate their entire career? The *Mona Lisa* and the *School of Athens* may suggest a tendency to play safe, but other choices are more eccentric. The alphabetical approach produces some wonderfully eccentric bedfellows, such as Greuze and Grimshaw and Pollaiuolo and Pollock. Each reproduction is accompanied by a caption, written according to a formula in which evocation gives way to more straightforwardly factual material. But like the equally tantalising captions that adorn page three of the *Sun*, the authorship of these *"Petits poemes en prose"* remains undisclosed.

My only real bleat is that I could have done without being told that *The Art Book* is "a celebration of our rich and multi-faceted culture", when this turns out to mean that most artists are painters and the 20th century gets more than its fair share of the limelight. There may be no room at the inn for Giselbertus of Autun, but predictably enough those "living sculptures" Gilbert and George have a seat by the fire.

DAVID EKSERDJIAN


In *Model With Unfinished Self Portrait*, 1977, David Hockney explores the effect of *trompe-l'oeil* by creating ambiguous boundaries between the illusory rooms occupied by the artist and his sleeping model. From *David Hockney: Paintings* (Prestel, £35)

Pride and panache in Wales

John Davies

A MACHYNLLETH TRIAD
By Jan Morris and Twm Morys
Viking, £14

At the head of the Dyfi estuary lies Machynlleth, where in 1404 Owain Glyndwr held a parliament and was, according to tradition, crowned *dei gratia princeps Wallie*. It is a place that has long engaged Jan Morris's imagination. Her book about it is in three sections: Machynlleth in 1404, today, and sometime in the next century when it is the capital of the Welsh Republic.

As with all Morris's work, the writing is richly textured and superbly aware of time and place. As little is known of the events of 1404, the author's imagination is allowed free reign and the result is a splendid re-creation of 15th-century ceremonial. The second section is more caustic. The town can appear swamped by incomers, particularly enthusiasts for the nearby centre for alternative technology. But the settler "should not underestimate the pride, the panache and even the arrogance of the Cymry Cymraeg".

The most enjoyable part is the vision of Machynlleth as the capital of the Welsh Republic, which compares with Huxley's utopian *Island*. Gore Vidal, America's first ambassador to Wales, abandons Ravello for Derwen-las and Pavarotti chooses Machynlleth for his farewell performance of *Turandot*. The star of Wales is one of 34 on the flag of the European Union.

The first half of the book is the triad in English; the second is the triad in Welsh, a masterly translation by the author's son.

Ideal of the desert explorer

Edward Marriott

THESIGER
A Biography
By Michael Asher
Viking, £20

Wilfred Thesiger is 84 years old. He was born in Ethiopia, where his father was a British diplomat. Savagely beaten at prep school, he graduated to Eton, and broke his nose in pursuit of a boxing blue at Oxford. He was the first man to locate the source of Ethiopia's Awash River, spent five years among the Bedu tribesmen of Arabia's Empty Quarter and eight years with the Marsh Arabs in Iraq. In the Second World War he fought in the SAS. Now he lives with what he calls his "family" in Kenya. He travels by foot, animal and open boat. He is, it seems to be generally agreed, the "last great explorer".

He is also, as Michael Asher's painstaking biography highlights, one of the last great romantic snobs. Asher has no axe to grind. A distinguished desert explorer and writer himself, he sees Thesiger's first book *Arabian Sands* as the "supreme account of travels in Arabia" and Thesiger as "my ideal of the desert explorer". But he has carefully laid aside the myth to take an unsentimental look at the man behind.

Thesiger is a complicated individual, more than anything a product of his time. He grew up in an outpost of Empire at the time when the British Empire was already past its peak. Against this background he developed an extreme distaste for democracy, believing that people were happier when they knew their place.

His antipathy is nothing if not catholic. Although he has not visited the United States, he dislikes "everything he hears" about the Americans. He hates it when his "boys" play modern music, dancing around the house to stars like "Boy Jackson or Michael George [sic]". He is a tireless monarchist. His views and opinions seem to be calcified in the 1890s.

At the age of eight he was sent to St Aubyn's, a Sussex prep school, becoming a whipping boy for the headmaster, whom Thesiger describes as a "homosexual sadist". At Eton, from 1923, he was unpopular and anti-authority, his pride in the school only discernible long after he had left. It was there that he developed his appreciation of the male form. He considers himself "fortunate" to have a low sex drive. "I don't dislike women," he says. "It's just that I like women in their own place."


Death grip, in *Tiger* by Simon Barnes (Boxtree, £7.99)

The contradictions are impossible to miss. Thesiger has played along with many a journalist eager to bill him as a staunch hater of all that is modern ("Gentlemen do not drive cars," he informed a friend in 1967). Yet for years he went on motoring holidays around Europe with his mother and now owns a Land Rover because he "could not keep scrounging lifts off people". He despises the media, yet listens to the news every day.

The few activities he supports are going rapidly out of fashion. He was a relentless big-game hunter, killing hundreds of lions in Africa and thousands of wild boar in the Marshes. He still holds up the Bedu's camel-herding way of life as an ideal — unmechanised and unrushed. But Asher's interviews with herders who worked for Thesiger show that they have been only too glad to trade in their traditional lives for houses, cars and plentiful water.

Thesiger, nevertheless, remains a hero to many. He has witnessed much change, enjoyed remarkable good fortune, and displayed impressive stamina as an explorer. His books, chronicling his lament at the passing of the old ways, are considered classics. But, Asher asks, should Thesiger be a hero? After all he never had to work for a living, yet condemns those whose lives are necessarily more restricted.

Thesiger comes across as intolerant, desperate to preserve his own exclusivity. When Gavin Maxwell travelled with him in the Marshes in 1956 to research his book *A Reed Shaken by the Wind*, Thesiger forbade him to wear Arab dress, although he himself, of course, had long since abandoned his tweed jacket. Asher writes: "No Westerner but he had the right to enter into the dream."

With his own desert experience and following many interviews with Thesiger, his friends and travelling companions, Asher has produced a well-balanced assessment of an extraordinary man.

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF BRITAIN.
Fairest Isle THE NATION'S MUSIC, CULTURE AND HISTORY EXPLORED IN A SPECIAL YEAR-LONG FESTIVAL.
BBC RADIO 3

The Quotes of the Sporting Year selected by Peter Ball

'I don't suppose I can call you a lucky bleeder when you've got 347' Angus Fraser to Brian Lara


GRAHAM MORRIS

☐ Now it's a gallon or two of cold lager, a day to recover and back to the building site at 7am on Monday morning.
Chris Brindley, *Kidderminster centre half, after the 2-1 FA Cup win over Birmingham City*

☐ He was quite daunting. If I ever need any guttering fixing, I'll give him a call.
Ray Wilkins, *then QPR captain, on Kevin Francis, Stockport's 6ft 7in striker, after QPR's Cup defeat*

☐ I think there are many who would like to see Venables as England's manager, but he has this funny reputation.
Sir Bert Millichip, *chairman of the FA, Jan 13*

☐ I would like Venables installed before the European championship draw in Manchester at the weekend. It would be a marvellous publicity stunt if he were there.
Millichip *three days later*

☐ Inverness is such a terrible place you have to do something on a Saturday afternoon.
David MacDonald, *Inverness Caledonian fanzine editor, admitting he would watch Caledonian Thistle in spite of campaigning against the merger*

☐ I have been on rugby tours and shared bloody beds.
David Ashby MP, *explaining sharing a bed with a male friend to save money*

☐ If your compadre brings a girl back, you have to find somewhere else to kip. In desperate straits, and if you were drunk enough, you might end up sharing a bed with another player — even a hairy rugby player is better than a cold balcony.
Jeff Probyn, *Wasps and England*



GED

☐ No, I didn't feel it was moving to see a man who isn't afraid to cry and who is in touch with his emotions. I thought: 'you great, wet lettuce, pull yourself together, it's only a game.'
Lynda Lee-Potter, *columnist, on Gavin Hastings's tears after Scotland's defeat by England*

☐ My job, to simplify it for you, is to make sure everyone gets on the bus in time.
Mike Smith, *England cricket tour manager, in the West Indies*

☐ How can I hope to get on reasonably with people who get their kicks from hiding surreptitious cameras in ceilings or who nick the Queen's Speech before Christmas Day? I cannot see myself doing reasonable business with that sort.
Smith *anticipating difficulties with his press relations on tour*

☐ As captain of England, my first duty is to England. It comprises most of my thoughts. It always has. Of course, I am very grateful to Harlequins for allowing me to do what I have done.
Will Carling *explaining his limited appearances for his club*

☐ In the big games, against Inter Milan or whoever, I think Cantona will go missing. He's a cry-baby when the going gets tough.
George Graham, *Arsenal manager, defending his team's approach*

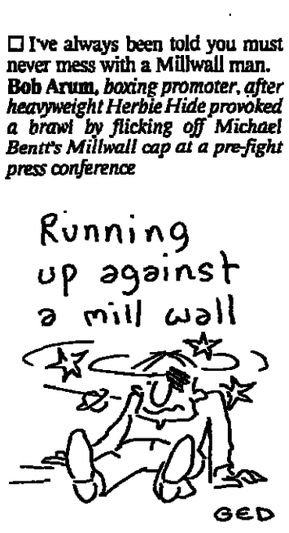
☐ When he couldn't have things his own way, he just took his bat home. Real soldiers grab their tin helmet, their rifle and a spade. They know that, on occasions, they have to dig in and make the best of it. When he didn't like it, he went missing. Back home to his music, painting and poetry.
Howard Wilkinson, *Leeds manager, on Cantona*

☐ Thank you for letting me play in your beautiful football.
Cantona *receiving his award as PFA player of the year*

☐ He can't run, can barely breathe, his legs have gone all soft and he can't kick a ball more than ten yards. Yet look what he does. He calms everyone down. It's just what we needed.
Mick Walker, *then Notts County manager, on Peter Reid after County 2 Forest 1*

☐ There is a different interpretation of professionalism in South Africa and Australia, and I'm afraid we may have to look at relationships with these two countries in the future.
Ian Beer, *president of the RFU*

☐ I've always been told you must never mess with a Millwall man.
Bob Arum, *boxing promoter, after heavyweight Herbie Hide provoked a brawl by flicking off Michael Bentt's Millwall cap at a pre-fight press conference*



GED

☐ I will pay the fine if it can be proved I tarnished the image of the sport. But how can you tarnish the image of a sport where a man can die in the ring?
Michael Bentt, *WBO heavyweight champion, after being fined £10,000 for the fracas with Hide*

☐ Do you think a whore likes doing what she does? Like her, I'm doing what I must.
Chris Eubank *to LSE students*

☐ The average sex act uses up about the same amount of energy as running 50 yards. Anyone can cope with that.
Christopher Brasher *on the Chinese coach Ma Junren's decision to expel Liu Dong, the world 1,500-metres champion, because she refused to give up her boyfriend*

☐ It's not the sex that tires out young footballers, it's staying up half the night looking for it.
Clemens Westerhof, Nigeria coach

☐ At the next Olympics, they are introducing beach volleyball. It will be full of Californian beauties, all tanned and in high-cut bikinis. That's much more enjoyable to watch than some dreary Chinese runner in a vest. The public will love it, and the sponsors will flock in.
Mike Fibbens, *British Olympic swimmer, on sex and sport*

☐ I don't feel right, for example, if I don't have my nails manicured. Just because Nigel Mansell doesn't worry about his nails doesn't mean that I shouldn't.
Lyn St James, *racing driver*

☐ The prop I was playing against kept on saying 'I'm sure their prop is a woman', but no-one believed him. I think my nail varnish must have given me away.
Bernadette McFadzean *after playing for Sutton Coldfield 4th XV against Coventry 3rd XV*

☐ It reminded us who we were.
Paul Ince *on the Mark Hughes equalising goal against Oldham in the Cup semi-final at Wembley which rescued United's season — and possibly destroyed Oldham's*

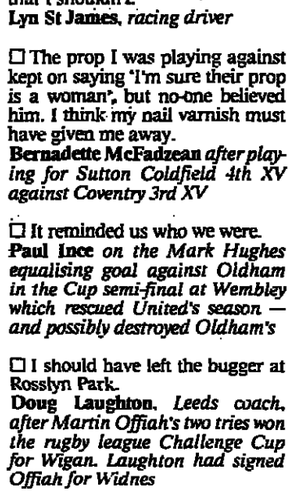
☐ I should have left the bugger at Rosslyn Park.
Doug Laughton, *Leeds coach, after Martin Offiah's two tries won the rugby league Challenge Cup for Wigan. Laughton had signed Offiah for Widnes*

☐ We came to play cricket but lost at skittles.
Alan Igglesden, *Kent bowler, after losing the Benson and Hedges semi-final to Warwickshire in an indoor "bowl-out"*

☐ From the Stadium of Light to the edge of darkness.
Andy Colquhoun, Birmingham Post, *on José Dominguez's move from Benfica to Birmingham City*

☐ MERCI POUR CANTONA. SCUM.
Manchester United supporters' banner *at Leeds as 2-1 win in April set United up for the FA Carling Premiership title*

☐ Do they hate us? You go to take a corner at Elland Road and you've got 15,000 horrible skinheads in their end yelling murder at you.
Ryan Giggs, Manchester United, on Leeds



GED

☐ It is essential to have one heavyweight champion, a superman, a walking billboard for boxing.
Seth Abraham, *head of Home Box Office Cable TV, as the world heavyweight titles proliferated*

☐ It's a dream having Diego here. It is like going out with Kim Basinger. You have to make the most of the moment, you don't think how long it will last.
Roberto Cruz, *president of lowly Deportivo Mandiyu, on signing Maradona*

☐ I don't believe Romario will cause any more problems than somebody like Alan Shearer or Ian Rush.
Steve Bruce, *Manchester United captain, coming back into the side for United's second European Champions' League match with Barcelona. Barcelona won 4-0*

☐ Slouched, uninterested in the entire proceedings, it looked as if he thought the result and his lack of contribution an irrelevance. Another game, another match negotiated without injury.
Stuart Barnes *on Will Carling's performance for Harlequins against Orrell*

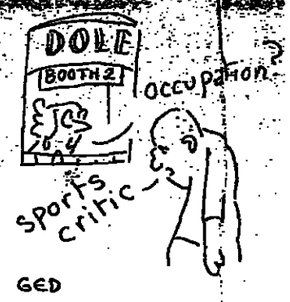
☐ How do I go home and tell my seven-year-old that you can't stamp on another player and remain on the field?
J. P. R. Williams *after watching the South Africans at Llanelli*

☐ I don't worry about punching and kicking. It's all part of the game.
Brian Thomas, *Neath's director of rugby, after the brutal match against the South Africans*

☐ He's the team manager, isn't he? He goes out onto the field and nicks a few catches in practice.
Raymond Illingworth *on Keith Fletcher's role*

☐ That's a home win and an away draw inside four days. We've only got one more game in November, and, if we win that, I'm in grave danger of ending up as manager of the month.
Mike Walker, *then Everton manager, after a 0-0 draw at Norwich. He was dismissed four days later*

☐ He is one of the best three or four managers in the country and it is up to him to sort it out.
Doug Ellis *on Ron Atkinson after Aston Villa's Uefa Cup exit. He fired Atkinson two game later.*



GED

☐ We are like Unicef at the moment, everyone is feeding off us. The ones who really get to me are the ex-players who are out of work and jump into the media to have a go at us.
Howard Wilkinson, *Leeds manager, responding to criticism*

☐ I couldn't understand why there was such a fuss, but when I saw the pictures I realised it had looked suspicious.
☐ I'm not a cheat and my conscience is clear.
Michael Atherton, *England captain, after the dirt in the pocket affair*

☐ Whilst I told Mr Burge that I put my hand into my pocket to dry my fingers, I did not tell him that I used the dirt to dry them: therefore my response to his questions was incomplete ... at no stage have I ever used any substance to alter the condition of the ball. **Atherton**

☐ If you can't take the word of the England captain, who the hell do you believe? What is cricket coming to?
Peter Burge, *the Test referee, after Atherton had made his confession that he had not initially told him the whole truth*

☐ I love the way British audiences respond to sport — the singing, the chanting. There is nothing like it anywhere else in the world.
Mal Meninga, *captain of the Australian rugby league party*

☐ Of course I wasn't nervous. Taking a penalty to win the Cup is what you are in the game for. If you don't feel excited by that, perhaps you should not be a professional footballer.
Eric Cantona *on his two penalties in the Cup Final*

☐ Just think if this had happened to a Pakistan player in a Test. The whole world would have gone crazy.
Intikhab Alam, *Pakistan manager, on the Atherton affair*

☐ I still don't think I'm batting as well as I can.
Brian Lara *after his record 501 not out v Durham*

☐ We conduct ourselves properly in cricket as we do in life. We are a different breed.
Fanie de Villiers, *South Africa fast bowler, on the touring team*

☐ Family is very important to our team. If somebody fails, they can't stop saying sorry to the other boys. There is so much respect and love in our set-up. Anybody who tries to disturb it will have to fight my arms off.
De Villiers

☐ It's not relaxing at all. It's hard grind, very hard work, five hours' concentration. The average punter just hasn't got a clue. I know people who've been fishing for 20 years, and I've caught more in a day than they've caught in 20 years.
Wayne Swinscoe, *fisherman*

☐ I took those pills as if they were aspirin. Thousands of players do it, but the cost is always higher for Maradona.
Maradona *on his suspension for drug-taking*

☐ Beating Argentina is the greatest moment for our people since the revolution.
Anghel Iordanescu, *Romania coach*

☐ God is a Bulgarian.
Hristo Stoichkov *after his country's win on penalties against Mexico in the World Cup*

☐ God is still a Bulgarian, but the referee was French.
Stoichkov *after Bulgaria were denied claims for a second penalty during their 2-1 defeat by Italy*

☐ We've gone from athlete management to crisis management.
Malcolm Arnold, *British athletics coach, on the growing demands of the sport*

☐ I do not believe they should be integrated with the Commonwealth Games. I can tell you it's an embarrassment for those people and for the athletes in the village.
Arthur Tunstall, *Australian vice-president of the Commonwealth Games, opposing the inclusion of disabled sportspeople*



GED

☐ Another episode of Soccer in the Sauna.
Ron Newman, *ESPN, as Germany v South Korea began in a temperature of 130°F in Orlando*

☐ I would love to see them gassed, but unfortunately that is not possible under Australian law.
Graham Halbish, *Australian Cricket Board chief executive, on the England supporters at Melbourne*

☐ You guys are history. You are going to pay for it.
Devon Malcolm *after being hit on the helmet first ball by Fanie de Villiers in the Oval Test. Malcolm took 9 for 57*

☐ I seem to be playing just for the love and honour of it.
Michael Atherton, *England captain, at the Oval after fines reduced his match fee to nothing for the second time in the series against South Africa*

☐ Hill has been thrown into the No 1 job because of what happened to Ayrton — but he was never really a No 1.
Michael Schumacher *as the world championship race hotted up*

☐ What's happening to rugby union when a winger head-butts a prop and is then sent to jail?
Brian Moore, *England hooker, on the 60-day jail sentence on Scott Henderson, of Hamilton Academicals, for assault*

☐ What are we meant to think when we see a forward in South Africa flagrantly stamping on the head of Jon Callard and going unpunished?
Moore, *Callard needed 27 stitches after the incident with Elandre van den Bergh*

☐ There are a lot of people on the British team doing it, but everyone turns a blind eye.
Liz McColgan *on drugs*

☐ I'd rather go down playing attractive rugby than stay up with the unattractive stuff.
Peter Dods, *coach of Gala rugby team, before the season began*

☐ That could be the point that keeps us in the first division.
Dods *after Gala's 0-0 draw with Edinburgh Academicals*

☐ When the captain said there was a problem at the back, I thought he meant me and Steve Bould.
Tony Adams *on a delayed flight back from Copenhagen*

☐ Earthquakes, wars and Millwall — results as they happen.
Radio 5 Live *advertising campaign. Millwall were not amused*

☐ At this moment Ossie is our manager — not only for this season, but for many seasons to come, I hope.
Alan Sugar, *Tottenham chairman*

☐ Good hookers do not necessarily make perceptive businessmen.
Stuart Barnes *on Brian Moore's role in the England squad's commercial activities*

☐ Rugby union is no longer an amateur sport. There will be a rude commercial awakening for those people who maintain that it is.
Louis Luyt, *South African RFU president*

☐ Every player we spoke to in South Africa made no bones about the fact they were paid. Players here would explode if they tried to victimise Mike.
Will Carling *on a call for the RFU to ban Mike Catt for admitted professionalism*

☐ Some players wanted to be paid anything from £150-£300 a match. They also demanded a signing-on fee of £3,000. And that was after I'd been told to approach them through their agents. These were players a little bit over the hill in terms of regular first division rugby.
Ernie Williams, *London Welsh chairman, on attempts to recruit players for his fifth division club*

☐ The players are up in arms about this. They don't want to play sides with professionals in them.
Anthony Stevens, *Club Cricket Conference secretary, proposing a boycott by southern clubs of the national club cup in response to the admission of professionals*

☐ The truth is that, without an Empire to police, team games have lost their purpose.
Boris Johnson *responding to Mr Major's proposal that the National Curriculum should include compulsory team sport*

☐ You've got to have fun, otherwise golf would be too much like a real job.
Laura Davies


GED

☐ I believe we are in a spiritual battle. Therefore I am not surprised that this sort of thing happens and there is confusion.
Rev Andrew Wingfield Digby, *on losing his post as chaplain to the England cricket team*

☐ Regarding the recent speculation concerning myself and Aston Villa FC, I wish to make it clear that I will not be the next manager of Aston Villa FC.
Brian Little's *resignation later at Leicester City. Four days later, he became Villa manager*

☐ No more nicey-nicey football. I'm looking for a team that fights.
Steve McMahon *on his appointment as Swindon player-manager. He was sent off four days later*

☐ I must have done all right for them to gob all over me.
Steve Jones, *of Bournemouth, running the gauntlet of the Birmingham supporters*

☐ We've got grounds which are State of the Art and administration which is State of the Ark.
Gordon Taylor, *PFA chief executive, on the bumbling investigation into the "bung" scandal*

☐ Industries go to the wall every day, look at Swan Hunter here in the North-East. I didn't hear too many cry for them, it was recognised they had to go. Football's a business, it's no different, and it's not going to be run by the blazer brigade any more. It needs to be run as a business by businessmen.
Sir John Hall, *Newcastle chairman, advocate of a closed shop, two-division Premier League*

☐ On this planet, we will always know, now, that the athlete of all athletes was between 45 and 55.
George Foreman *on regaining his world heavyweight championship at 45*

☐ Well, stone me. We've had cocaine, bribery and Arsenal scoring two goals at home. But just when you thought there truly were no surprises left in footbal, Vinnie Jones turns out to be an international player.
Jimmy Greaves, Sun *columnist*

هكذا من الأصل

Argentina display an exciting formation but an unchanged temperament

Passarella gives new talent free rein

FROM DAVID MILLER IN BUENOS AIRES

ENRIQUE MARCARIAN



Rambert, who showed balletic skills to score Argentina's winning goal, escapes the despairing clutch of Jugovic, the Yugoslavia midfield player

DANIEL Passarella departs for the intercontinental championship in Saudi Arabia next week with an Argentine team capable of anything. Or nothing. On Tuesday, the tactical instability of a potentially brilliant side was evident in the defeat of Yugoslavia by a single goal.

I say tactical, yet, in a sense, the instability arises because there are no tactics; just spontaneous combustion among a young group of free-thinking ball-players. There is therefore no theme, no pattern and no continuity. The system is nicely summarised by Yugoslavia's ageing guru, Miljan Miljanic: "Anarchic."

For those old enough to remember a perplexingly entertaining English player of the Seventies, it is as though Argentina had a team of ten Duncan McKenzies. Yugoslavia had no idea what was going to happen next. Nor had Argentina.

Defending their intercontinental title, it will be interesting to see how they open against Nigeria, equally but differently talented, in a repeat of last summer's World Cup encounter. Their group includes Japan, while Mexico, Denmark and the Saudis vie to provide the other finalist.

Batistuta, of Fiorentina, is expected to be the only European-based player in the squad, since Passarella is intent on creating a united team held together by domestic familiarity. The principle is sound enough, but the problem must be that, within a year, Ortega, Rambert and other younger players will be scooped up by preying European clubs.

Ortega, 20, from River Plate, is an echo of Maradona, covering the whole field and liable to unhinge the opposition with a single touch, as he did against Yugoslavia by giving two men the slip on the left and sending a dipping cross that Rambert, running across Pandurovic, somehow flicked over the goalkeeper.

Argentina used a strange 2-6-2 formation that, in effect, had no centre forward, yet there were always two, three or more players filling that space and creating a nightmare during their purple spell in the first half for Dukic, Yugoslav's *libero*, and his two markers, Dorovic and Brnovic. Yet Argentina had nothing to lean on once the flair began to lose its sparkle in the second half. The value of system and method is that you can still play effectively, so to speak, even when not playing well.

Yugoslavia, who had not known which way to look next at times in the first half, kept a steady head and their own rhythmic pattern paid dividends in the second half, when they all but turned the match. A wretched miss by Savicevic, of AC Milan, from four yards, after a cross from Mihajlovic, the Sampdoria midfield player, was apparently caused by the ball coming at him straight out of the floodlights.

The match almost became nasty. Yugoslavia's short fuse was often ignited by Argentina's late or provocative tackles and their wanton feigning of being hurt when there had been almost no contact. It was ever thus, genius and Artful Dodger in one. Who can forget the 1966 World Cup quarter-final with England? Incidentally, Argentina are negotiating to play England next autumn.

Argentina's performance put Brazil's display last Friday into perspective. The comparison in tactical discipline was obvious and emphasised the opinions of Zoran Filipovic, the Benfica coach, and of Miljanic that the Brazil team that won the World Cup for the fourth time is perhaps more tactically sophisticated than any of its predecessors. As Miljanic observed, Brazil are marvellous defenders without being defensive, instantly able to switch defence into attack because of their technique, able to win the ball by interception rather than full frontal tackling.

The Yugoslavs have conducted themselves impeccably on the most arduous tour with which I have been involved — the travel, heat and unfamiliar circumstances sapping their energy with no time to acclimatise prior to two of the toughest matches they could have faced. They have revealed all the traditional elements of skill that have distinguished Yugoslavia's football over the past 50 years, even though the team now comprises only the republics of Serbia and Montenegro.

Their patriotism, however, is as proud as ever: against Brazil, the players decided unanimously that they would rather keep the new Yugoslav shirt than swap with their opponents because it had more emotional value to them.

Crowe has little to celebrate in run record

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

MARTIN CROWE became New Zealand's leading run-scorer in Test cricket yesterday, but was unable to prevent South Africa from taking control of the second Test in Durban. Crowe passed John Wright's tally of 5,334 runs when he reached four in New Zealand's second innings, but he was dismissed for only ten as they slipped to 48 for three, with an overall lead of just seven, when bad light ended play early on the third day.

It would have been even worse for New Zealand had Hudson, at second slip, not dropped Young, then on ten, off McMillan. Young survived to reach 18 not out, having batted for more than two hours and faced 106 balls.

South Africa owed their strong position to some fine work with both bat and ball by Fanie de Villiers. He helped rescue their first innings with 28 in a last-wicket stand of 44 with David Richardson and then added to his five first-innings wickets with an early strike when New Zealand batted again.

When de Villiers joined Richardson a few minutes before lunch, South Africa, resuming at 122 for five, had slipped to 182 for nine. They stayed together until an hour after lunch to give their side a useful first-innings lead of 41.

De Villiers's dismissal gave Simon Doull his second five-wicket haul in Test cricket. He finished with five for 73. Richardson again played with great sense and composure and was left unbeaten on 39, the top score of the innings.

When New Zealand batted a second time, McMillan picked up two wickets as well as having Hudson dropped. He removed Rutherford, who pulled to mid-wicket, and Crowe, who was caught at the wicket by Richardson off the inside edge. De Villiers had made the initial breakthrough, having Murray leg-before for nought.

IN BRIEF

Tasmania enjoys narrow win

THE maxi yacht, *Tasmania*, crossed the finishing-line minutes ahead of its leading rival in a thrilling finish to the fiftieth Sydney to Hobart race yesterday.

Bob Clifford, the skipper, brought *Tasmania*, the pre-race favourite, up the Derwent River into Hobart at dawn, escorted by about 50 pleasure boats, about a mile ahead of the maxi, *Brindabella*, skippered by George Snow.

Tasmania missed the record time of 2 days 14hr 36min 56sec set in 1975 by the American maxi, *Kialoa*, by about two hours.

England crash

Basketball: England paid for ignoring their opponents' shooting skills when they were beaten 104-94 by Iceland in Keflavik yesterday. England were 23 points down before they rallied unavailingly through Roger Huggins, with 23 points, Peter Scantlebury (17), Karl Brown (16) and Spencer Dunkley, who scored 15 points on his first appearance.

Pontoni beaten

Cycling: Daniele Pontoni, who won the Italian amateur world cyclo-cross championship in Leeds three years ago, was beaten into third place yesterday in the fourth round of the World Cup series at Loenhout in Belgium but retained the overall lead in the competition.

New ski date

Skiing: The men's Alpine World Cup downhill race scheduled for Crans Montana on January 6 but called off because of poor snow conditions, will be raced in Wengen on January 20.

Non-starter

Athletics: Liz McColgan yesterday withdrew from the County Durham international cross-country race with a throat infection.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

INTERNATIONAL: Keflavik: Iceland 104 England 84 (Huggins 23).
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Milwaukee 98 Detroit 88; New York 99 New Jersey 91; Orlando 103 Miami 83; Los Angeles Clippers 95 Chicago 92; Phoenix 119 Dallas 118; Houston 105 Atlanta 83; San Antonio 119 Charlotte 108; Indiana 95 Denver 91; Golden State 129 Los Angeles Lakers 105; Sacramento 102 Portland 101.

DARTS

PURFLEET: Essex Proton world championships: Group A: P Evison (Eng) bt G Stoddart (Eng) 3-2; C Lazaranko (Eng) bt G Stoddart (Eng) 3-2. Group B: K Spolek (Eng) bt K Dieter (Eng) 3-1. Group C: J Harvey (Sco) bt S Brown (US) 3-1. Group D: R Harrington (Eng) bt S Burgess (Eng) 3-2. Group E: B Anderson (Eng) bt J Umberger (US) 3-1. Group F: P Taylor (Eng) bt G Verrier (US) 3-2. Group G: D Smith (Eng) bt A Warner (Eng) 3-1. Group H: J Lowe (Eng) bt D Priestley (Eng) 3-0.

CRICKET

DHAKA: SAARC tournament: Final: India 217; Bangladesh 164. India won by 52 runs.
PORT ELIZABETH: Tour match (third day of four): Eastern Province 93-1 (K C Wessels 48 not out) v Sri Lankans.

Second Test match
South Africa v New Zealand

DURBAN *(third day of five): New Zealand lead South Africa by seven runs with seven second-innings wickets in hand*

NEW ZEALAND: First Innings 185 (S A Thomson 82; P S de Villiers 5 for 64)

Second Innings

B A Young not out	18
D J Murray lbw b de Villiers	0
*K R Rutherford c Commins b McMillan	6
M D Crowe c Richardson b McMillan	10
S P Fleming not out	10
Extras (lb 2, nb 2)	4
Total (3 wkts)	48

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-11, 3-28.
BOWLING: de Villiers 11-4-14-1; Jack 7-0-16-0; McMillan 8-2-11-2; Matthews 3.3-0-5-0.

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings

A C Hudson c Young b Morrison	8
G Kirsten c Parore b Doull	29
J B Commins c Hart b Doull	30
D J Cullinan lbw b Doull	34
*W J Cronje c Thomson b Morrison	19
J N Rhodes c Fleming b Hart	1
B M McMillan b Doull	17
†D J Richardson not out	39
C R Matthews c Parore b Morrison	7
S D Jack c Crowe b Morrison	0
P S de Villiers c Fleming b Doull	28
Extras (lb 6, nb 8)	14
Total	226

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-61, 3-110, 4-111, 5-122, 6-141, 7-168, 8-182, 9-182.
BOWLING: Morrison 25-4-70-4; Doull 29.4-9-73-5; Pringle 15-5-23-0; Hart 17-2-54-1.
Umpires: C Mackley (SA) and Khizar Hayat (Pakistan).

CAPE TOWN: Tour match (third day of four): Western Province 436 (H D Ackerman 118, E Simons 102 not out, J Kallis 53, D Rundle 50) and 196-4 (J Kallis 57 not out); Pakistanis 308 (Saeed Anwar 51, Asif Mujtaba 55).

FOOTBALL

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Argentina 1 Yugoslavia 0 (in Buenos Aires).
FA VASE: Third-round replay: Postponed: Lakeard Athletic v Tunbridge Wells.

Tuesday's late results
FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Nottingham Forest 1 Norwich City 0.
ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First division: Swindon Town 1 Sheffield United 3. Third division: Barnet 1 Gillingham 0.

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Edinburgh 9 Fife 2; Humberside 9 Whitley 3; Sheffield 3 Nottingham 3. First division: Medway 13 Lee Valley 3; Telford 7 Trafford 5.
DAVOS: Spengler Cup: Faerjestads (Swe) 3 Traktor Chelyabinsk 2; Davos (Switz) 8 IFK Helsinki (Fin) 3.

RUGBY UNION

Representative match
Scottish Schools B 3 Australia Schools 30

TABLE TENNIS

LEADING WORLD RANKINGS: Men: 1, J-M Saive (Bel); 2, Wang Tao (China); 3, J-O Waldner (Swe); 4, P Karlsson (Swe); 5, Ma Wenge (China); 6, J-P Gatien (Fr); 7, Z Primorac (Cro); 8, Kim Taek-Soo (S Kor); 9, J Rosskopf (Ger); 10, Li Gun-Sang (N Kor); 11, A Grubba (Pol); 12, Liu Guoliang (China); 13, Kong Linghui (China); 14, J Persson (Swe); 15, J Huang (Can). Women: 1, Deng Yaping (China); 2, Qiao Hong (China); 3, G Jun (US); 4, Chai Po Wa (HK); 5, Chen Zihe (China); 6, Wang Chen (China); 7, C Koyama (Japan); 8, Lu Wei (China); 9, Tang Weiyi (China); 10, Li Bun-Hui (N Kor).

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

ANAHEIM, California: Freedom Bowl: Utah 16 Arizona 13.

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL
Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

UNIBOND NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: First division: Netherfield v Harrogate Town.
KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Maesteg Park v Llanelli.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Millwall v Chelsea (2.0).
UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Burgess Hill v Three Bridges.
SCHOOLS MATCH: FA Premier League Under-18 Trophy: Kent v Surrey (at Cobdown 1.0).

RUGBY UNION
Representative match
Middlesex v Italy Federation Development XV (at Harlequins, 2.0)

OTHER SPORT
DARTS: WDC world championships (Circus Tavern, Purfleet).
ICE HOCKEY: British League: First division: Slough v Swindon (8.15); Trafford Metros v Teeside (5.30).
SNOOKER: European League: S Davis v A McManus; K Doherty v R O'Sullivan; J White v J Parrott (Irthlingborough).
TABLE TENNIS: England v China (St Austell).

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SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort		Weather (5pm) °C	Last snow
ANDORRA								
Soldeu	20	40	worn	varied	art	sun	0	22/12
(Pistes becoming very worn, snow cannons in use)								
AUSTRIA								
Obergurgl	20	80	fair	heavy	worn	cloud	3	22/12
(Good piste skiing above 2300m, lower runs very worn)								
St Anton	5	110	good	varied	worn	rain	5	28/12
(Snowing above 1500m, poor visibility, avalanche risk)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	15	100	fair	heavy	fair	cloud	4	28/12
(Heavy conditions, signal now worn, stony/grassy patches)								
Les Arcs	15	130	worn	varied	worn	cloud	4	28/12
(Some fresh snow, many bare patches persisting)								
Chamonix	0	200	good	powder	closed	rain	5	28/12
(Snowing above 1600m, higher runs improving)								
Courchevel	15	70	worn	varied	art	rain	2	27/12
(Deteriorating conditions with warm weather and rain)								
Flaine	10	120	slush	heavy	slush	rain	5	27/12
(Warm, slushy skiing at all levels; 6 of 28 lifts open)								
La Plagne	25	80	fair	heavy	poor	cloud	4	28/12
(Difficult conditions with wet snow and poor visibility)								
Val d'Isère	25	100	fair	heavy	fair	cloud	2	28/12
(Higher runs skiing well despite mild weather)								
ITALY								
Cervinia	10	195	good	varied	fair	cloud	5	27/12
(Good skiing on open pistes, much milder)								
SWITZERLAND								
Mürren	10	60	slush	heavy	slush	rain	5	22/12
(Rain at all levels, soggy skiing)								
Verbier	25	105	fair	varied	poor	snow	1	28/12
(Sticky but enjoyable skiing, more snow forecast)								
Wengen	10	35	worn	heavy	slush	rain	2	22/12
(Fresh snow above 2200m, rain below, very mild)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

Wigan hit by new setback for Clarke

PHIL CLARKE, the vice-captain of the Great Britain rugby league team, who has not played since damaging ankle ligaments in the defeat by Australia on November 20, suffered another setback in training yesterday.

The Wigan loose forward, who had hoped to make his comeback in the 32-25 victory over St Helens on Boxing Day, could now miss the Stones Bitter Championship match against Warrington at Central Park on New Year's Day.

"We shall just have to wait to see what kind of reaction he suffers," Graeme West, the Wigan coach, said. West also has doubts over three other players injured during the match against St Helens, although the news concerning Va'aiga Tuigamala is less serious than at first feared. "Inga's knee is not swollen and if, during the next couple of days, it doesn't get any worse, then it's just a matter of time before he's fit," West said. The same applies to the wing, Jason Robinson, and the second-row forward, Denis Betts, who are both suffering from ankle injuries.

Salford have signed the Australian back, Scott Wilson, from Canterbury-Bankstown until the end of the season, with a one-year option. Wilson, 22, has twice tested positive for recreational drugs in the past four years. John Wilkinson, the Salford chairman, said: "We have been assured by Canterbury that he is a reformed character." Wilson will replace Scott Mahon, who is returning to Australia in the new year.



THE TIMES Aberlour Hogmanay Quiz

The history of Scotland is brave and sometimes tragic – and competitors will need a good knowledge of it to answer today's questions in *The Times* Aberlour Hogmanay Quiz.

The classic Speyside malt whisky and Britain's best quality newspaper have already challenged readers in the fields of art and literature, geography and sport. Tomorrow and on Saturday the subjects are food and drink, and general knowledge.

When you have the answers to all the 30 questions, send them in and you could win a sporting weekend for two, with salmon fishing and golf as well as a tour of the Aberlour Distillery.

Even if you fail to win one of the 102 top prizes, your study will not go unrewarded. Every entrant who completes the 30 questions by the closing date will receive a miniature bottle of Aberlour.

The prizes

The first two correct entries drawn at random after the closing date will each win a sporting weekend for two on Speyside, Scotland. The winners will fly to Aberdeen and spend two nights at Craigellachie Hotel. Salmon fishing and golf will be available and there will be a tour of the Aberlour Distillery.

The next 50 correct entries will receive prizes of 35cl bottles of Aberlour single malt, each with two Riedel malt whisky glasses.

A further 50 correct entries will each win a 70cl bottle of 10-year-old Aberlour Single Highland Malt.

Every entrant who completes the 30 questions by January 9, 1995, will receive a miniature bottle of Aberlour.

How To Enter

Every day this week *The Times* will publish five questions. When you have the answers to all 30 questions, send them on a piece of paper together with your name, address and daytime phone number to: *The Times*/Aberlour Hogmanay Quiz, 18-19 Whitefriars Street, London EC88 2NG.

All entries must be received by midnight on January 9, 1995. Winners will be chosen from all correct entries received by this date. Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply.

Day Four Questions

1) What was the name of the Italian secretary of Mary Queen of Scots?
2) What does Glasgow mean in Celtic?
3) When was Inverary Castle rebuilt on its actual site? (Date of decision required).
4) When does the earliest historical reference to something like whisky date from?
5) Where was Saint Andrew buried?

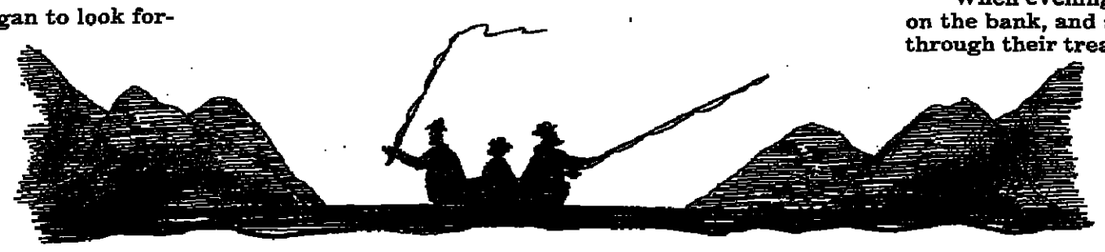
Nae Macallan... Nae fish...

A STORY IS TOLD of Donald, a revered ghillie in years gone by on a certain loch of our acquaintance. It was a bad morning for trout, the water a glassy calm.

Donald toiled all morning at the oars while his cargo of two London businessmen caught nothing.

As lunchtime neared. Donald began to look forward to the lustrous sherry-gold depths of The Macallan Malt Whisky which was the customary reward for a deserving ghillie. But the otiose Sassenachs had other ideas.

"No fish, Donald," they cried. *"Then no whisky!"* Donald said nothing, and ate his lunch at some remove.



But the iron had entered his soul. The wind rose. And all afternoon while every other boat on the loch was landing an almost miraculous draught of trout, Donald rowed his clients slowly up and down the one unruffled stretch of water.

When evening came, he deposited his fishless clients on the bank, and surveyed them gravely as they rifled through their treasuries of insult, goggling like the trout they had so signally failed to capture.

"Nae Macallan," said Donald at last. *"Nae fish!"* And rowed off into the gloaming.

The MACALLAN The Malt

Otto's second-half strike helps Birmingham stretch unbeaten run to 21 games

Fry's patchwork team crafts victory

Cardiff City 0
Birmingham City 1

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

BARRY FRY, the Birmingham City manager, had used 31 players prior to Christmas in a curious mix-and-match effort at escaping from the Endsleigh Insurance League second division at the first attempt. Successful sides are usually based on settled line-ups with the minimum of infiltrators or interruptions.

Much to Fry's credit, though, his incessant chopping and changing — with the cheque-book assistance of David Sullivan, his chairman — has only improved the product at St Andrew's. In danger of becoming the comotose giant of the Midlands, adrift in second division backwaters; they now possess a 21-match unbeaten run stretching back to late September.

At Ninian Park yesterday, Ricky Otto, the 32nd and newest member of the Birmingham bretheren, again provided evidence of Fry's shrewdness in the transfer market. Signed for a club-record £800,000 from Southend United, Otto had made a bitter-sweet debut in the 1-1 home draw against Cambridge United on Boxing Day, when he scored for both teams before being substituted.

Yesterday, his 59th-minute goal was enough to sentence Cardiff City to further scrimmaging near the wrong end of the division. Poole slung over the ball from the right and Otto latched on to the ricochet to send a lunging, right-foot shot slithering past Williams.

Fry was as bubbly as ever, after initial condemnation of Birmingham's patchy first-half display. "It was pathetic," he said. "If I could have taken off nine players at half-time, I would have. We were totally negative. Nobody wanted to take responsibility; it was all pass-the-buck stuff. But we were tremendous in the second half. We really battled. If you want to win championships, you sometimes have to roll up your sleeves and dig in. That's what we did. We were triffic."

Birmingham still have nine first-team players on the sick-list and Fry relishes the day when most of them are fit to perform. At Cardiff, though, the future is less rosy. Still beset by boardroom strife, there is no money to alleviate the playing and administrative gloom and only limited talent at the disposal of Terry Yorath, the general manager and now commander-in-chief since the departure of Eddie May. It is a predicament not entirely dissimilar to that of the Wales national team, whom Yorath once managed with distinction.

"We tried to roller-coaster them in the first half and almost succeeded," he said. "We needed a good performance to boost morale here and I thought we were unlucky not to get a point."

Maybe they were. In horrible conditions — seven inches of rain have fallen in the past few days — Cardiff ignored Birmingham's formidable credentials, and the continuous downpour, with a display of commendable bravado. However, Fry's vigorous half-time pep talk — "Cor blimey, lads. Wot on earth d'yer call that?" — had the desired effect.

More composed in all departments, they cleverly drew their opponents into leaving too many gaps and then administered the punishment with Otto's goal. A late rally from Cardiff produced a fine series of saves from Bennett, who dived every which way in denying Stant, twice, Evans and Dale.

For Cardiff, Yorath and much of Welsh football, dark clouds continue to hover. For Birmingham, Fry and Sullivan, the sun keeps shining. Liverpool in the FA Cup, too. Cor blimey, wot bliss.

CARDIFF CITY (4-4-2): D Williams — W Feredey, J Perry, L Beddeley, D Searle — C Dale, P Ramsey, A Cotway (sub: S Young, 78min) C Griffith (sub P Millar, 65) — A Evans, P Starr.
BIRMINGHAM CITY (4-4-2): I Bennett — G Paul, D Barnes, D Howell, C Whyte — N Doherty, M Ward, G Cooper, R Otto — S Claridge, M De Souza.
Referee: C Wilkes

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Birmingham team-mates congratulate Otto, centre, at Ninian Park yesterday as he celebrates scoring his second goal in two games for the club

Hull deprived by Taylor's penalty-area expertise

Bradford City 1
Hull City 0

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

HULL City's promotion challenge in the second division of the Endsleigh Insurance League faltered in yesterday's exasperating contest at Valley Parade, where a lapse of concentration five minutes from time cost them a share of the spoils.

The Bradford attack had caused few problems until Robson, their captain, lofted a spectacular pass into the visitors' penalty area. John Taylor has made sweeter headed connections, but this one was effective enough to bring him his third goal in three games, a return to the sort of goalscoring form that once made him one of the most feared strikers in the lower divisions.

Taylor was averaging a goal every three games when he left Bristol Rovers last summer, at what was a record fee for Bradford of £300,000. He still lacks something of his former sharpness and had stumbled his way through this inept encounter before delivering a *coup de grâce* that seemed to surprise him as much as the 7,312 who saw it.

Hull are a club of admirable thriftiness that Geoffrey Richmond, the Bradford chairman, would dearly love to emulate off the pitch. To those who bitterly criticised the sale of Lee Duxbury, who was then the club captain, to Huddersfield earlier this month, as part of the book-balancing exercise, yesterday's win was the ideal riposte.

Hull's promotion bid, if it is to be reawakened, will require luck, a good deal of sticking plaster for a threadbare squad and future avoidance of the sort of complacency that crept into their game in a match they appeared to have well in hand, in spite of an inferior share of possession.

Hull had four former Bradford players in their ranks, in addition to a former Bradford manager in Terry Dolan, but it was a reunion that provided precious little sparkle.

Dolan had no complaints afterwards, nor should he have had. Lennie Lawrence, his Bradford counterpart, was relieved at only a fifth home League win of the season: "It's a boost for everyone. We were well overdue this sort of performance at home," he said.

The pre-match announcement that Andrew Petterson had been recalled by Charlton after a month's loan — "and not sent back by choice" — seemed hardly designed as a vote of confidence in Paul Tomlinson, who took over in goal. Yet he was to emerge as man of the match.

Almost single-handedly, he kept Bradford on level terms in the first half as Hull neatly exploited the spaces that opened up all too readily behind the home back four. Were it not for the sharpness of Tomlinson's reflexes at short range, Windass's strong header would have found the net in the seventh minute. After 30 minutes, his outstretched hands parried a venomous effort by Peacock.

Bradford did not want for chances, but, in the squally wind, control, as well as shots, went astray. Jewell being particularly wasteful.

Hull, whose early frustrations should have resulted in a redoubling of effort, could find no impetus in a barren second half. The price they paid was a heavy one, for they had gained no reward from the game in hand they had over the four clubs above them in the table.

BRADFORD CITY (4-4-2): P Tomlinson — R Hudord, G Mitchell, G Oliver, W Jacobs — C Shutt, D Hamilton, G Robson, S Murray — P Jewell (sub: P Showler, 76min), J Taylor.
HULL CITY (4-4-2): S Wilson — R Wallace, G Hobson, R Dewhurst (sub: D Mail, 43), J Graham — R Peacock (sub: C Hargreaves 83), G Abbott, C Lee, C Lawlord — L Brown, D Windass.
Referee: K Lupton.



Robson: telling pass

King faces inquiry into 'racist' outburst

ANDY KING, the Mansfield Town manager, is being reported to the Football League after allegedly making racial remarks and using abusive language during his side's 5-2 victory at Scarborough on Tuesday. The comments were said to have been made when Scarborough's black midfield player, Jason Rockett, was sent off by the referee, Trevor West, during the Endsleigh Insurance League third division match.

West, from Hull, said he was not aware of any incident during the game, but was duty-bound to report complaints made by supporters.

Defeat left Scarborough bottom of the division.

King said yesterday: "How anyone can call me a racist I don't know. Have they seen the colour of my assistant manager, Keith Alexander? I refute this allegation totally.

"Their team are doing badly. They have a new manager and won't have a go at him yet. So they have to take their anger out on someone and that person is me. This all happened after one of their lads was sent off. The fans applauded him to the dressing room for a bad tackle and that to me summed up their hostile attitude to my team.

"Maybe I get a bit aggressive during a game and swear — what manager doesn't? — and if I have offended anyone, I apologise, but, I stress, I'm no racist."

Ibrox could host European final

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

RANGERS are edging closer towards their dream of staging the final of a European competition at Ibrox. The Glasgow club's ground was one of 17 on a short-list drawn up by Uefa, European football's governing body, for this season's cup finals.

Rangers have apparently lost out to Vienna and Paris in 1995, but work is due to start in 1995 to complete the corners of Ibrox, increasing the all-seater capacity to 51,000 and giving the club a stronger case next season.

A Uefa spokesman said: "The Rangers ground is on our list of stadia for European finals and was considered. The club competition committee have put forward their recommendations for this year's final — the European Cup final should be at the Ernst Happel stadium in Vienna and the European Cup Winners' Cup final at the Parc des Princes, Paris. These proposals will go before the executive committee at the end of January."

The Paris ground holds 50,000 and the one in Vienna 48,700, so Ibrox will compare favourably in future. David Murray, the Rangers chairman, said: "We've been vetted by Uefa and we are on the list. It's something we're working towards and hope will happen some day. Mind you, we'd rather be playing in a European final than staging one."

Ibrox staged this season's Scottish Coca-Cola Cup final and could host the Tennents Scottish Cup final if Celtic, who are using Hampden Park this season, are involved.

Mexico has made a bid to hold the World Cup finals in 2002. Fifa, the world governing body, said in Zurich yesterday. Japan and South Korea had been contesting a two-horse race for the finals and João Havelange, the Fifa president, has said that they should be held in Asia.

Mexico hosted two successful tournaments in 1970 and 1986. The three countries have until February 28 to confirm their bids and Fifa will make its decision in June 1996.

Napoli have asked Uefa to consider whether Eintracht Frankfurt inadvertently used a fourth foreign player when the teams met in a Uefa Cup match last month. Eintracht won the third-round tie 2-0 on aggregate.

Giuseppe Iodice, secretary-general of the Italian club, said yesterday that the German team's use of Slobodan Komljenovic, a Serb, in the first leg on November 24 was Napoli's bone of contention.

He said Komljenovic violated his status as an assimilated player — a foreigner who has played at least five years within a national association, two of them at youth level — when he played for Yugoslavia's national team recently.

"Komljenovic lost his assimilated status once he played for Yugoslavia against Brazil and Argentina," Iodice said.

RADIO CHOICE

A politician on Wagner

The Bayreuth Experience. *Radio 3, 4.40pm.*

Michael Portillo's reflections on this afternoon's performance of *Götterdämmerung* are, he says, those of a man who does not understand the technicalities or music. And yet, he speaks of the deep E flats at the start of *Rheingold*. Interviewer Clive Bennett tries hard to get him off music and on to politics. Wasn't he discomforted by a problem "dear to his heart" — Wotan's reneging on two of his employees? No, just deeply fascinated by it. And what of Bernard Shaw's theory that the *Ring* is essentially about capitalists setting out to destroy workers' rights? The Secretary of State for Employment skates deftly around that one.

Touch of Genius. *Radio 4, 11.30pm.*

Nobody who can tell genius from talent will quarrel with the title of this four-part series about the jazz pianist George Shearing which ends tonight. Shearing has only to play two successive bars and we know that we are in his unique world of sound. June Knox-Mawer has been interviewing him in the Cotswold cottage where he and his second wife spend five months out of every year. In telling the Shearing story, I do not think she has left a stone unturned, whether it has been his 50 years as a performer and recording artist, the famous names with whom he has shared the limelight, or — and this is something that is sensitively explored in tonight's episode — his lifelong blindness.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Claire Sturgess 7.00 Lynn Parsons 10.00 Kevin Greening, including at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat 4.00 Mark Goodier 7.00 Evening Session's Live Rewind, presented by Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq, including REM in the south of France and live music from Oasis in Newcastle 10.00 The Story of Pop 11.00 Classic Concerts: *In Concert* celebrates 25 years 12.00-4.00am Lisa L'Anson

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Martin Kelner with the Early Show 6.15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Fiona Armstrong 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 For Better or for Worse: starring Su Pollard and Gordon Kaye 7.35 Country Club presented by Lisa Stewart 9.00 Paul Gambaccini 9.45 Gospel Train: at the Calvary Church of God in Christ, Tottenham, London 10.30 London Calling (r) 11.00 Barbara Cook (r) 12.05am Patrick Lunt 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

Midnight Test Match Special: Australia v England 7.00 The Breakfast Programme 8.35 The Magazine, with Diana Madill, including at 8.35 topical phone-in; Film Review of the Year; Euronews; Gut Reaction 11.05 Yule Never Believe This! 11.35 Sporting Partnerships: Olympic rowers Jonny and Greg Searle 12.00 Midday with Mair, including at 12.34pm Moneycheck 2.05 Ruscoe on Five 4.00 John Inverdale Nationwide 7.00 News Extra, including at 7.20 the day's sport in full 7.35 Women on Top 8.35 I Remember You: Referee Clive Thomas and goalie Gary Sprake 9.05 SportsAmerica 10.05 Brief Lives (r) 11.00 Night Extra 11.35 Yule Never Believe This! (r) 12.05am Night Moves, with Steve Sampson 2.05 Up All Night

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 4.30am BBC English 4.45 Fruhmagazin: in German 5.00 Newshour 6.00 Morgenmagazin 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 World News 7.15 *Just William* 7.30 Network UK 8.00 World News 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 Good Books 8.30 John Peel 9.00 News 9.05 Business Report 9.15 From Our Own Correspondent 9.30 The Farming World 9.45 Sport 10.00 News 10.01 Assignment 10.30 Two Cheers for 1994 11.00 Newsdesk 11.15 BBC English 11.45 Mittagsmagazin 12.00 World News 12.10pm Words of Faith 12.15 Multitrack: X-Press 12.45 Sport 1.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 *Just William* 2.45 The Learning World 3.00 News 3.15 The Greenfield Collection 4.00 News 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Heute Aktuell 5.00 News 5.05 World Business Report 5.15 BBC English 5.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 Kaleidoskop 8.00 World News 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 The World Today 8.30 Europe Today 9.00 News 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 Network UK 10.45 Sport 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Two Cheers for 1994 12.00 News 12.15am Music Review 1.00 News 1.05 Outlook 1.30 On the Move 1.45 Global Concerns 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 The Women in Black 3.00 News 3.15 Sport 3.30 Focus on Faith 4.00 Newsdesk

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey 9.00 Angela Rippon 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto: Bartók (Violin Concerto No 2) 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Classic Reports 7.00 The Travel Guide 8.00 Evening Concert 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00am Penny Vine

VIRGIN

6.00am Paul Coyte 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Gary King 7.00 N.J. Williams 11.00 Nick Abbot 2.00-6.00am Janey Lee-Grace

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather 7.00 On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Hanson (Serenade for flute, harp and strings, Op 35); Mendelssohn (Prelude and Fugue in E minor, Op 35 No 1); 7.32 *Quartet Collection:* Haydn (String Quartet in C, Op 33 No 3); 8.05 Ives (Country Band March); Janáček (The Diary of One Who Disappeared, excerpts); Poulenc (Organ Concerto)
9.00 **Composer of the Week:** Rimsky-Korsakov (r)
10.00 **Musical Encounters,** with Edward Blakeman. Mozart (Violin Concerto in A); 10.35 *Artist of the Week:* George Malcolm, conductor. Britten (Hymn to St Cecilia); 10.45 Montéclair (Two Brunettes); *La Barre* (Suite in C minor); Vivaldi arr George Malcolm (Sonata in C); Haydn (Symphony No 79 in F)
12.00 **Ensemble:** A recital of French piano music by Kathryn Stott, piano (r)
1.00pm **Opera Matinée:** Götterdämmerung. James Levine conducts the Bayreuth Festival Orchestra in Act 1 of the final instalment of Wagner's epic *Ring* cycle. Sung in German; 3.15 The Bayreuth Experience: Visitors to this year's Bayreuth Festival talk about what it was like for them. Paul Findlay, managing director of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra; 3.25 Act 2 4.40 The Bayreuth Experience: See Choice; 4.50 Act 3
6.15 **The Music Machine:** Byte the Music. Mike Edwards looks at creating synthesised sounds from scratch (r)
6.30 **The Changing Orchestra:** Michael Hall introduces recordings by the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra made between 1928 and 1989, including music by Mendelssohn; Stravinsky, Bruckner, Shostakovich, Strauss and Brahms
8.00 **Speaking of Chopin . . . a Pianist's View:** Tone Poet — Colour, Texture and Form. With Jeremy Siepmann
8.45 **Orchestra of St John's, Smith Square** under John Lubbock. With Sally Harrison, coloratura soprano, Julia Gooding, soprano, Christine Cairns, mezzo, Francesco Manara, violin. *A Funfare!* by students of North Westminster Community School. Respighi (Suite: The Birds); John Woolrich (Four Concert Arias: It was at Night; A Hymn to the Night; Through the Dark Leaves; Donna Anna); Respighi (Leggende and Humoreske); Mozart (Symphony No 40 in G minor)
10.15 **Strange Arrangement:** In the last programme, the composer, pianist and bandleader Carla Bley talks to Alan Plater about working with her partner, Steve Swallow, the excitement and terror of live performance, and recent compositions for her Very Big Band (r)
10.45 **Book, Music and Lyrics:** Robert Cushman continues his personal view of musicals, with songs from original cast recordings (r)
11.30-12.30am **Voices:** Iain Burnside presents favourite songs from this year's programmes

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping 6.00 News; Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.50 Murderers and Other Friends: John Mortimer recalls life at the Bar (4/5) 8.58 Weather
9.00 **News** 9.05 **The Moral Maze**
10.00-10.30 **No Commitments** (FM only): Final part of Simon Brett's comedy series
10.00 **Daily Service** (LW only)
10.15 **Children's Radio 4** (LW only). The Willows in Winter, by William Horwood (2/6)
10.30 **Photo Appreciated** (r)
11.00 **News; Miss Ballantine and the Big Fish:** David Bean considers Georgina Ballantine's catch of a 64lb salmon in 1922, which has remained a British record
11.30 **Murder in Mesopotamia:** One of the mysterious anonymous letters is found in the possession of a very unlikely suspect
12.00 **News; Second to None:** The series that looks at people who do other people's jobs
12.25pm **The Year in Question:** Brian Hayes umpires the final of the news quiz 12.55 Weather
1.00 **The World at One**
1.40 **The Archers** (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 **News; Three Men in a Boat (to Say Nothing of the Dog),** by Jerome K. Jerome. Dramatised by Tom Stoppard. With Alex Jennings, Julian Wadham, Nicholas Le Provost and Ron Cook
3.30 **In Excess,** with Armando Iannucci
4.00 **News** 4.05 **On the Road Again:** Last of a four-part series retracing the hippy trail of the 1960s
4.45 **Family Feelings:** Sex Objects. Stories for Christmas by Deborah Moggach (4/5)
5.00 **PM** 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 **Six O'Clock News**
6.15 **Tides of History** (r)
6.30 **Just a Minute** (r)
7.00 **News** 7.05 **The Archers**
7.20 **Missing in Austin, Texas:** Jan Fairley investigates the life and disappearance of the American actress Nancy Cole
8.00 **This Is My First Wife — A Hundred Years of James Thurber:** Sue Limb examines the life and work of the American comedy writer
8.45 **Medical Notes:** Maurice Ravel. Michael Oliver investigates the composer's illnesses and death
9.00 **Does He Take Sugar?** Magazine for listeners with disabilities. With Ted Harrison
9.30 **Kaleidoscope Feature:** John Harvey recalls the rise and fall of the jazz trumpeter Alex Welsh (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 **The World Tonight,** with Robin Lustig
10.45 **Book at Bedtime:** The Diamond as Big as the Ritz, by F. Scott Fitzgerald. Garrick Hagon reads the fourth of a five-part adaptation (r)
11.00 **Stephen King's Salem's Lot:** Third of a seven-part dramatisation
11.30 **Touch of Genius:** See Choice
12.00-12.43am **News,** incl 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shipping Forecast 12.43 As World Service (LW only)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. RADIO 5: 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. Listings compiled by Peter Dear and Gillian Macey

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 40

LUNGE

(c) Either of two large North American freshwater fishes, *Salvelinus namaycush*, a char or lake trout found in northern lakes, or *Esox masquinongy*, a pike found in the Great Lakes. 1851, *Vermont Laws*: "Such person or persons shall forfeit and pay the sum of one dollar for each trout or lunge so taken."

INVERTOR

(b) A muscle which turns a part (as the foot) inwards. "The invertors of the foot are *Tibialis posterior* and *Tibialis anterior*."

MODENA

(b) A pigeon of the variety so called, distinguished by its stocky build and red legs. "The Modena became an exhibition pigeon which, with its red legs, strutted and flounced just like the Wife of Bath."

NUPPENCE

(a) Slang for no money, modelled on *tuppence*. 1886, *Longman's Magazine*: "The Americans can get our books, and do get them, and republish them and give us nothing — that awful minus quantity, nuppence!"

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 d7! leaves Black helpless.

Cash settles for modest ambition

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

PAT CASH, the former Wimbledon champion, has set himself a modest goal as he continues his comeback in a series of Australian tennis tournaments over the next five weeks.

The injury-troubled Cash missed most of the 1993 season with a knee problem and is making another return to the circuit after having back surgery in January.

The 29-year-old will partner Kristine Radford in the Australian team to contest the Hopman Cup teams championship, which starts on Saturday at the Burswood Superdome.

"My only goal is to survive the Australian season without injury," Cash, who has been granted a wild-card entry into next month's Australian Open in Melbourne, said.

Cash has been rebuilding his game by playing in satellite tournaments in Europe. "The main thing is I've had no problems with my back or knee," he said. "I've played about six or seven tournaments in a row now, so I feel as though I'm getting into some sort of groove."

Cash, a native of Melbourne who won Wimbledon in 1987 and had a career-high world ranking of No 4 in 1988, said he was excited at the prospect of again facing some of the leading names in tennis: "Playing the small tournaments in Europe is not a great motivator, but there is a great field for the Hopman Cup," he said. "This will be the first time I've come up against the top players and the competition is seriously tough."

The Czech Republic team of Petr Korda and Jana Novotna, the defending champions, is the top seed for the 12-nation event, ahead of the German team of Boris Becker and Anke Huber.

Cash and Radford play their first-round match against the South African combination of Christo van Rensburg and Amanda Coetzer on Sunday.

☐ Four Czechs have refused to play in the first-round Davis Cup match against Italy in February, saying their tennis union's guarantee of nearly $18,000 (about £11,700) each is not enough, it was reported in Prague yesterday.

Mlada Fronta, the daily newspaper, quoted a letter sent by Martin Damm, David Rikl, Cyril Suk, and Daniel Vacek to Jan Kodes, the Czech Tennis Union chairman and former Wimbledon champion. It quotes the letter as telling Kodes that the union's final offer — reportedly of 500,000 crowns each ($17,900) for even a first round defeat — "far from corresponds with our expectations".

The Czechs are already desperate to replace Petr Korda, ranked No 18 in the world, and Karel Novacek, who indicated in November they would not play in the Davis Cup next year, both citing a lack of interest.

Vladislav Svarda, the team captain, told *Mlada Fronta* that, through the letter, the four players had "embarrassed themselves in front of the whole nation and basically damaged our tennis".

However, Svarda said that he hoped to meet the men during January's Australian Open and he would be able to offer each an individual contract. The tie with Italy is scheduled for February 3 to 5 in Naples. Players and tennis officials were unavailable for comment yesterday.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Pussy-footing with the Bunny girl boss

Before Christmas so rudely interrupted, a quiet little debate was rumbling over the etiquette of the modern celebrity interview. For disgruntled interviewers, the big question is: to buy or not to buy the public relations packaging that today's celebrities come gift-wrapped in? Not to buy and it's bye-bye interview. Sign on the dotted line, however, and it's hello interview (even *Hello!* interview), goodbye reputation. At best you'll sound fawning, at worst a star-struck sycophant.

To his credit, Jonathan Ross made his position clear right from the start of **The Ultimate Playboy** (BBC 1). He may have been the only man to have entered the *Playboy* mansion wearing a pin-striped suit (worried about being taken seriously, Jonathan?) but he emerged converted, clad in pyjamas and silk dressing gown.

It was 40 years, the doting Ross told us, since Hugh Hefner had had his great idea. "He wanted to create a magazine that featured all his favourite things — jokes; satire; well written fiction; modern, jazzy illustrations; lifestyle features and, best of all, pictures of beautiful women with their shirts off." It was pretty clear these were Ross's favourite things too. Suddenly the purpose of his prop pipe became clear. It covered the drooling.

With Hefner now in what he describes as his "September years", the rules of the interview were quickly established. It was non-penetrative discourse only. Having confirmed that Hefner came up with *Playboy* not to get himself laid, but to make himself money, Ross quickly lapsed into wow! mode. As in "You were known as Mr Playboy. Wow! — what a great name" and "Wow! — what a deal" after realising that all those infamous *Playboy* parties were tax deductible.

Like the puppy which rolls on its back in surrender, Ross admitted to barely making it into double figures in terms of sexual partners. Could he ask how many . . . he could. Hefner had stopped counting years ago, but it was definitely more than a thousand. "Wow!"

This intensive line of questioning was interspersed with archive footage that had it appeared on ITV would have had the Independent Television Commission reaching for its "glib and superficial" stamp. As Playmates played with playboys, Bunny girls dipped and danced with recklessly edited abandon. Ross's early attempts at a voice-over made way for sub-titles. Presumably because his tongue was hanging out.

Ross lobbed the odd curve ball — drugs, Dorothy Stratton's murder, feminism — but Hefner has been playing the publicity game too long to be caught out. "I found it

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

impossible not to like Hefner." Ross concluded to no one's particular surprise. "And if you're planning any more parties . . ."

Dr Susan Greenfield may not have been wearing a Bunny costume, but she might as well have had for all the fuss that has surrounded the first woman in almost 170 years to present **The Royal Institution Christmas Lectures** (BBC 2). In the end she chose a blush pink silk blouse and leggings to bring a ridiculously long tradition of bow-ties and tweed-jackets to its overdue end.

The big hurdle may be behind her, but Dr Greenfield still faces an uphill battle as she seeks to spark her young audience with scientific inspiration. On paper, she is Renaissance Woman personified, with A-levels in Greek, Latin and Ancient History, a first degree in psychology and a doctorate in neurochemistry. On television, however, she comes across as a nervous, hesitant lecturer, at ease with her subject but not with her audience.

Her task is made no easier by that chosen subject, the workings of the brain. There may be a certain grisly fascination in cross-sections of pickled crocodile brains, but it has none of the spectacular flashes and bangs to which chemistry and physics so readily lend themselves and which the Institution's audience so enjoy. Still, the biological sciences deserve their day and with the nerve-racking, ground-breaking first lecture out of the way Dr Greenfield may emerge as that special mix of academic and showman that these lectures require. Hang on — urgent message coming in from my male brain's poorly interconnected cerebral hemispheres. What was that? Oh yes, better make that showperson.

As fast as one female role model sought to inspire with science, another was out to debunk it. Helena Kennedy QC, righter of wrongs, champion of the unchampioned, was definitely not a fan, especially not of the forensic variety. "I think we have to be very wary about promoting science as a god and sometimes in courtrooms it can be promoted as a god."

Kennedy, by contrast, was heaven-sent to the makers of the excellent *Equinox Special:* **Incredible Evidence** (Channel 4). Not only does she know her law, she is married to a surgeon who knows what every good scientist knows but most jurors do not. That science is inexact. That answers are not definite, only probable.

So armed, the programme did a highly convincing job of raising more than reasonable doubt about the reliability of such prosecution aids as video enhancement, DNA profiling and even that foundation of forensics, finger-printing.

The programme's most serious questions concerned DNA profiling, both in terms of the underlying science (are DNA matches more common than we have been led to believe?) and its application. As one American sceptic put it: "Anything that a human being can think of, anything that a human being can do, is something a human being can screw up."

BBC1

7.00 News, regional news and weather (9492504)

7.10-1.00 Children's BBC beginning with **Secret Life of Toys** (r) (s) (9412368) **7.25 Felix the Cat** (9400523) **7.40 Marlene Marlowe Investigates** (r) (9648146)

8.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (7463320)

8.10 The Adventures of Skippy (s) (4486813) **8.35 Swat Kats** (r) (s) (9153981)

9.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (5159078)

9.05 Bucky O'Hare (r) (8883368) **9.30 Why Don't You...?** (s) (42610) **10.00 Playdays** (s) (1490900) **10.20 William's Wish Wellingtons** (s) (9462542) **10.30 Joe 90**. Puppet adventures (12981)

11.00 FILM: Darby O'Gill and the Little People (1959) starring Albert Sharpe and Sean Connery. A fantasy tale about the ageing caretaker of an Irish country estate who enlists the help of the "little people" when his position is threatened by a young man. Robert Stevenson directs. (Ceefax) (78252)

12.30 Harry and the Hendersons. American family comedy (8635417) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (14960368)

1.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (44636542) **1.10 Neighbours**. (Ceefax) (s) (27809165)

1.30 FILM: El Dorado (1967) starring John Wayne, Robert Mitchum and James Caan. Western drama directed by Howard Hawks. (Ceefax) (44426610)

3.35 Daffy Duck Double Bill (2444436) **3.50 Pingu**. Animation (r) (4631165)

3.55 Beatrix Potter: The World of Peter Rabbit and Friends (r). (Ceefax) (5709981)

4.20 Peter Pan and the Pirates. Cartoon adventures of J.M. Barrie's hero (3449368)

5.00 The Best of Blue Peter. Highlights from the 1994 programmes. (Ceefax) (s) (9267436)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (489875)

6.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (289558)

6.15 Regional News Magazines (104813)

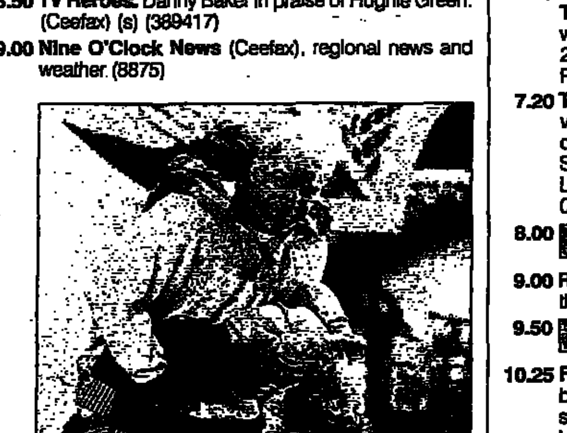
6.30 The World's Strongest Man. The final of the feats of strength competition. (Ceefax) (81542)

7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (368)

8.00 Secrets. A magic show in a night-club setting, presented by Paul Daniels with Debbie McGee. (Ceefax) (s) (326310)

8.50 TV Heroes. Danny Baker in praise of Hughie Green. (Ceefax) (s) (389417)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8875)



Steve Martin delights in fatherhood (9.30pm)

9.30 FILM: Parenthood (1989) starring Steve Martin, Mary Steenburgen and Dianne Wiest. A comedy drama about the joys and pains of family life. Directed by Ron Howard. (Ceefax) (91287)

11.30 Review Of the Year 1994. James Naughtie with his reflections on the year's events. (Ceefax) (714078)

12.45am FILM: The Family Jewels (1965) starring Jerry Lewis. Comedy, in which Lewis plays seven roles, about a nine-year-old girl who inherits $30 million and must decide which one of her uncles she wants to be her guardian. Directed by Jerry Lewis. (Ceefax) (556092) **2.25 Weather** (7755547)

BBC2

7.00 Match of the Day (r) (s) (4529829)

8.15 FILM: Mon Oncle (1958) starring and directed by Jacques Tati. Monsieur Hulot entertains his nephew (92112639)

10.00 The American Civil War. The third of a five-part history (r) (272829)

12.30 Johnners: A Tribute To Brian Johnston. Christopher Martin-Jenkins introduces a tribute to the late commentator and broadcaster (r). (Ceefax) (s) (51368)

1.00 Charlie Chalk (r) (44625436)

1.15 The Royal Institution Christmas Lectures. In the second of her series of lectures Dr Susan Greenfield looks at studies of the brain (s) (811894)

2.15 Timewatch: The Mysterious Career Of Lee Harvey Oswald. The story of the supposed assassin of President Kennedy (r). (Ceefax) (442558)

4.00 FILM: Gunfight at the OK Corral (1957) starring Burt Lancaster and Kirk Douglas. The story of the friendship between the gunfighter Doc Holliday and the lawman Wyatt Earp and the events that led to the legendary shootout in Tombstone. Directed by John Sturges (Ceefax) (4691)

6.00 Hot Shoe Shuffle. Sparkling dancing from the Australian cast of *Hot Shoe Shuffle* (32287)



Soul mates Joan Hooley, Jason Rose (7.00pm)

7.00 Siren Spirits: Get Me to the Crematorium on Time. A tale of magic and mystery about a woman whose life is turned upside down when her lover of 20 years dies. Starring Joan Hooley and Jason Rose. (Ceefax) (s) (203078)

7.20 The Marriage of Figaro. The first of a three-part version of Mozart's comic opera, to be shown on consecutive nights, set in contemporary Britain. Starring Andrew C. Wadsworth, Jan Hartley, Mary Lincoln, Harry Burton and, in cameo roles Denis Quilley and Nigel Planer (s) (361962)

8.00 CHOICE **Decisive Moments**. (Ceefax) (9946)

9.00 Rab C. Nesbitt Special. More wit and wisdom from the string-vested sage. (Ceefax) (s) (296146)

9.50 CHOICE **Three Fights, Two Weddings and a Funeral**. (Ceefax) (s) (439165)

10.25 FILM: In Bed With Madonna (1991, colour and b/w). A documentary, behind-the-scenes look at the singer on her 1990 *Blonde Ambition* tour. Directed by Alek Keshishian. (Ceefax) (s) (763610)

12.20am Newman and Baddiel Live and in Pieces The comedians recorded on the last night of their 1993 national tour, at Wembley Arena on December 10, before an audience of 12,000. (Ceefax) (2634295)

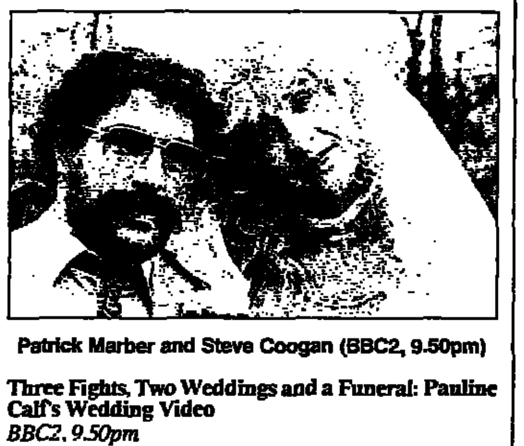
1.20 Weather (3165498)

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CHOICE

Decisive Moments
BBC2, 8.00pm

This unconventional review of the year recalls the main news stories through the pictures associated with them. Some "events" such as Elizabeth Hurley's revealing film premiere dress, would never have registered were it not for vivid photography. On other occasions, news that we need to know about — such as the slaughter in Rwanda — has been given more impact through shocking pictures. The programme talks to photographers, agencies and picture editors, revealing the chain of events that leads to an image making it into newsprint. In the case of the Northern Ireland ceasefire, photographers used to taking pictures of violence were unsure how to take pictures of the lack of it. Lensman Crispin Rodwell explains how chance and some clever editing of the scene before him led to one of the most inspiring images of the year.



Patrick Marber and Steve Coogan (BBC2, 9.50pm)

Three Fights, Two Weddings and a Funeral: Pauline Calf's Wedding Video
BBC2, 9.50pm

Steve Coogan, recently on our screens as chat-show host Alan Partridge, takes on the dual role of Mancunian Paul Calf and his sex-crazed sister, Pauline in this crude, but funny, knockabout comedy. Pauline, wearing the sort of outfits that Lily Savage would die for, is preparing to wed her Greek lover Spiros (Patrick Marber), a man who is not what he seems. In between filming the odd item for *You've Been Framed*, the faithful video camera records Pauline's disastrous hen night, Spiros in the bathroom, the wedding itself and, when things go a little wrong, Spiros's funeral. Watch out for John Hannah from *Four Weddings and a Funeral* delivering a very different eulogy over the grave.

Black Christmas: Stir it Up!
Channel 4, 8.30pm

Jamaica has been called "the little island with the big sound" and this documentary celebrates the development of Jamaican music with performance, archive footage and contributions from artists including Toots, Third World, Gregory Isaacs, Marcia Griffiths and Maxi Priest. For Ziggy Marley, reggae is "a continuous music which will never die, because it always deals with the people's struggle to better themselves". Adds Tyrone Downie: "The message is unity. I mean not just blacks, but for the whole world to unite." Although reggae is now an international phenomenon, *Stir it Up!* goes back to the streets of Jamaica and its downtown dance halls to capture the raw essence of the music.

Saved By the Bell: The College Years
Channel 4, 6.30pm

A harmless new follow-up series to the American teen comedy has the high school kids older but not much wiser as they adapt to being freshers at the University of California in Berkeley. Trickster Zack, wrestling ace Slater and the nerdish Screech are the three musketeers of the piece, muddling through their studies and love lives with engaging ineptitude. Patronised by their female colleagues, our heroes soon come to realise that having been hip high school dudes they are now "the lowest rung in the food chain", as Zack puts it.

Stephanie Billen

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (6579900)

9.25 The New Adventures of He-Man (8881900) **9.50 James Bond Junior** (r) (1617436) **10.15 Bananas in Pyjamas** (6737784) **10.20 ITN News** headlines (Teletext) (9987207)

10.25 London Today (Teletext) and weather (3890908)

10.30 FILM: Babycakes (1989) starring Ricki Lake. A lonely mortuary worker's life is transformed when she falls for an attractive subway worker. Directed by Paul Schneider (15507417) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7486851)

12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (8653813)

12.55 Emmerdale (r). (Teletext) (8638504) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (53022320)

1.55 Gardeners' Diary (s) (80570349) **2.25 A Country Practice** (s) (92840829)

2.50 The Young Doctors (9082851) **3.20 ITN News** headlines (Teletext) (6201829) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6120900)

3.30 Warner Brothers Cartoon (4414455)

3.35 FILM: Rough Cut (1980) starring Burt Reynolds, Lesley-Anne Down and David Niven. A Scotland Yard chief inspector blackmails a glamorous socialite into helping him trap an elusive jewel thief. Directed by Don Siegel (93715184)

5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (414469)

5.55 Your Shout. Viewers' opinions (464707)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (900)

6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (252)

7.00 Emmerdale (Teletext) (2610)

7.30 The Cook Report Update. Roger Cook looks at what action the government has taken following his allegations over cot deaths (436)

8.00 The Bill: Returning the Call (Teletext) (1558)

8.30 Strike It Lucky Special (Teletext) (s) (898097)



Brian Dennehy is in the line of fire (9.15pm)

9.15 FILM: Blue Heat (1990) starring Brian Dennehy. The head of a tough undercover narcotics squad is suspended when his investigations into a ruthless drug ring get too close to the truth. Directed by John MacKenzie (886788)

11.15 ITN Late News (Teletext) and weather (848894)

11.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (694320)

11.35 FILM: Farewell, My Lovely (1975) starring Robert Mitchum as Raymond Chandler's wisecracking private detective Philip Marlowe who is assigned to find a missing girl. But even he has trouble keeping up with the ever growing number of deaths the case produces. Directed by Dick Richards (512368)

1.20am The Album Show (r) (s) (7908108)

2.20 America's Top Ten (r) (s) (1184566)

2.50 FILM: Slap Shot (1977) starring Paul Newman. The coach of an unsuccessful ice hockey team tries to inject some new life by recruiting three violently effective players. Directed by George Roy Hill (53169856)

4.55 Gnomes (r) (7149363)

5.45 Cartoons (8918634)

5.55 ITN Morning News (6666856). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.40am Terrytoons (4605349) **7.00 Stunt Dawgs** (5209320) **7.35 Pro-Stars** (r) (8914558)

8.00 The Big Breakfast (24875)

10.00 Spacecats (r) (s) (27962)

10.30 Batman. The dynamic duo continue the fight with Catwoman. (Teletext) (2506455) **10.55 Terrytoons** (2683900)

11.05 Tintin. The boy detective battles to save the kidnapped professor (9939097) **11.30 Kelly**. The further adventures of the wonder dog (r) (2078)

12.00 If Wishes Were Horses. The children learn how to coax a horse over obstacles and then see how the experts do it at a horse show (r) (s) (29271)

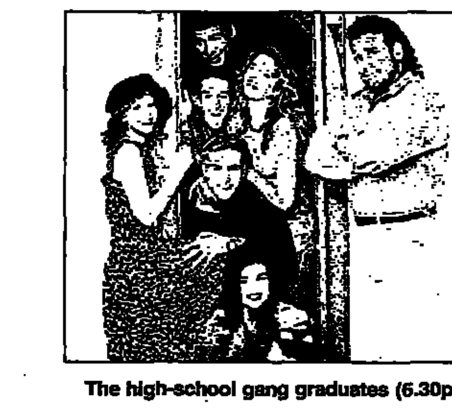
12.30pm Sesame Street (85542)

1.30 FILM: The Kid from Brooklyn (1946). Musical comedy starring Danny Kaye as a timid milkman who becomes a boxer after accidentally knocking out the world champion outside a nightclub. With Virginia Mayo and Vera-Ellen. Directed by Norman Z. McLeod (44419320)

3.35 Pete Smith Specialities (b/w). Domestic comedy with Robert Benchley (2437146)

3.50 FILM: The Prince and the Showgirl (1957) starring Laurence Olivier as a Ruritanian Prince who falls for an American showgirl (Marilyn Monroe). Directed by Laurence Olivier (93792233)

6.00 Blossom. Blossom is cast as a lead in the school play (r). (Teletext) (s) (542)



The high-school gang graduates (6.30pm)

6.30 CHOICE **Saved by the Bell: The College Years**. (Teletext) (894)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (7392)

7.30 The Cosby Show. American family comedy series (r). (Teletext) (338)

8.00 The Fall of Squirrel Nutkin. Once a welcome sight in woodland areas, the red squirrel has gradually been replaced by the grey. Was the red squirrel's decline natural, or a result of more sinister methods by its larger cousin? (9900)

8.30 CHOICE **Black Christmas: Stir It Up!** (Teletext) (s) (94558)

10.00 FILM: This Sporting Life (1963, b/w) starring Richard Harris as a coalminer who becomes a professional rugby player. He embarks on an affair with an emotionally repressed widow (Rachel Roberts). Directed by Lindsay Anderson. (Teletext) (77945097)

12.35am Old Father Christmas. An original modern opera, examining Santa's long forgotten pagan roots and the way he has been tamed. The jolly gent was, in fact, a character of chaos, struggling with his primal instincts (3997740)

1.05 Key West. The islanders brace themselves as Hurricane Andrew bears down on Key West (s) (7900566)

2.05 FILM: Close Encounters of the Spooky Kind (1980). Concluding the *Chinese Ghost Stories* season with a frantic action fantasy about a cuckolded husband who is helped by a sorcerer's assistant to avoid the death curse put on him by a magician. Directed by Samo Hung (938214). Ends at **4.00**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 9.50am C.O.P.S (1617436) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (6737784) **10.30** Disney's Charley and the Angel (15507417) **1.55** The Young Doctors (35131165) **2.20** Take the High Road (92752610) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (9082851) **3.30** Donald Duck (4414455) **3.35** Disney's The Cheetah (851097) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (1548392) **6.30-7.00** Anglia News (252) **11.35** The Equalizer (988436) **12.35am** Maid to Order (552276) **2.15** America's Top Ten (81818) **2.45** Celia (663214) **3.45** Cue the Music (8941276) **4.40-5.55** The Pickwick Papers (2515617)

CENTRAL
As London except: 9.50 C.O.P.S (1617436) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (6737784) **10.25-10.30** Central News (3890908) **1.55** Father Dowling Investigates (2756900) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (9082851) **3.30** Disney Cartoon Time (4414455) **3.35** Cheetah (851097) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (1548392) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (140146) **5.45am-5.55** Cartoon Time (8918634)

GRANADA
As London except: 10.15-10.20 Cartoon Time (6737784) **10.30-12.20** Babycakes (15507417) **12.55** Shortland Street (8638504) **1.25** Home and Away (27813368) **1.50** Murder, She Wrote (2748981) **2.50-3.20** Emmerdale (9082851) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (1548392) **6.25** Granada Tonight Special (140146) **7.00-7.30** Emmerdale (2610) **11.35** Prisoner Cell Block H (988436) **12.35am** Maid to Order (552276) **2.15** America's Top Ten (81818) **2.45** Celia (663214) **3.45** Cue the Music (8941276) **4.40-5.55** The Pickwick Papers (2515617)

HTV WEST
As London except: 9.25 Scooby Doo - Where are You? (8881900) **9.50** C.O.P.S (1617436) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (6737784) **10.30** Charley and the Angel (15507417) **1.55** Cartoon Time (85130610) **2.00** Stationmasters (1909368) **2.55-3.20** Shortland Street (8109184) **3.30** Cartoon Time (4414455) **3.35** Cheetah (851097) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (1548392) **5.55** Home and Away (581287) **6.25-7.00** HTV News (140146) **11.35** The Equalizer (988436) **12.35am** Maid to Order (552276) **2.15** America's Top Ten (81818) **2.45** Celia (663214) **3.45** Cue the Music (8941276) **4.40-5.55** The Pickwick Papers (2515617)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 6.25-7.00 Wales Tonight (140146) **11.30-11.35** HTV Wales Headlines (694320)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 9.50am C.O.P.S (1617436) **10.15-10.20** Warner Cartoon (6737784) **10.30-12.20** Disney's Charley and the Angel (15507417) **1.55** A Country Practice (35131165) **2.20** The Home Show Challenge (92752610) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (9082851) **3.30** Disney Cartoon (4414455) **3.35** Disney's The Cheetah (851097) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (1548392) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (900) **6.30-7.00** Laugh with the Carry Ons (252)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 9.50 C.O.P.S (1617436) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (6737784) **10.30-12.20** Disney's Charley and the Angel (15507417) **1.55** Westcountry Focus: The West at Work (80570349) **2.25-3.20** Highway to Heaven (3306707) **3.30** Donald Duck (4414455) **3.35** Disney's The Cheetah (851097) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (1548392) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (56813) **11.40** Prisoner Cell Block H (248320) **12.35am** Maid to Order (552276) **2.15** America's Top Ten (81818) **2.45** Celia (663214) **3.45** Cue the Music (8941276) **4.40-5.55** The Pickwick Papers (2515617)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 9.50 C.O.P.S (1617436) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (6737784) **10.30-12.20** Disney's Charley and the Angel (15507417) **1.55** A Country Practice (35131165) **2.20-3.20** seaQuest DSV (1985788) **3.30** Cartoon Time (4414455) **3.35** Disney's The Cheetah (851097) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (1548392) **5.55** Calendar (180839) **6.30-7.00** Runway (252) **11.40** Prisoner Cell Block H (248320) **12.35am** Our Sons (552276) **2.15** Top Ten (81818) **2.45** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (80189) **3.15** Door to Door (128045) **4.55** Jobfinder (7149363) **5.45-5.55** Cartoon Time (8918634)

S4C
Starts: 7.05 Stunt Dawgs (9269894) **7.35** Prostars (8914558) **8.00** The Big Breakfast (24875) **10.00** Space Cats (27962) **10.30** Batman (5556252) **10.55** Terrytoons (2683900) **11.05** The Adventures Of Tin Tin (9939097) **11.30** Kelly (2078) **12.00pm** If Wishes Were Horses (29271) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (46436) **1.00** Wonder Man (89723558) **2.45** Ask For Diamond (33924829) **4.30** The Cosby Show (349) **5.00** The Crystal Maze Kids' Special (9523) **6.00** Newyddion (185788) **6.10** 5 Pump (547900) **7.00** Ma' ifan'ma ' To (7392) **7.30** Mor O Gan (24455) **8.30** Newyddion (110829) **8.45** Teuluoedd Y Byd (237392) **9.00** Aria' O' R Pant I' R Bryn (8559) **10.00** Branwen (634441) **11.50** Dune (44805504)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am DJ Kat Show (31602436) **8.45** Cartoons (5381233) **9.30** Card Sharks (73558) **10.00** Concentration (1426558) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (7863639) **10.30** Candid Camera (43829) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (62356) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (54981) **12.30pm** E Street (71146) **1.00** St Elsewhere (72829) **2.00** The Far Pavilions (88829) **3.00** The Dukes of Hazzard (3679184) **3.50** DJ Kat Show (5954252) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (4233) **6.00** Gamesworld (7436) **6.30** Blockbusters (8788) **7.00** E Street (5962) **7.30** M*A*S*H (3900) **8.00** The Bible: Abraham. Epic series (15504) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (34639) **11.00** Late Show with David Letterman (157504) **11.45** Chances (113908) **12.45am** Barney Miller (35653) **1.15-1.45** Night Court (32566)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (7572875) **9.30** News Extra (99320) **10.30** ABC Nightline (61271) **11.00** News and Business (94523) **11.30** Year in Review — Ulster (95252) **1.30** CBS News (84900) **2.30** Memories (15523) **3.30** Healthwatch (9894) **4.00** News and Business (1829) **4.30** Year in Review — Middle East (7813) **5.00** Live at Five (2875) **6.30** Talkback (2558) **7.30** Year in Review — Ulster (8542) **8.00** News and Business (2252) **8.30** Year in Review. — Middle East (13800) **9.30** Worldwide (82252) **11.30** CBS News (89726) **12.30am** ABC News (64295) **1.30** Talkback Replay (36769) **2.30** Memories (66547) **3.30** Healthwatch (61092) **4.30** CBS News (57740) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (47057)

SKY MOVIES
6.05am Showcase (66684165) **10.00 Valley of the Gwangi** (1969) (56051558) **11.40 Agatha** (1979) (31178225) **1.20pm Murder on the Orient Express** (1974) (28272417) **3.30 The Mirror Crack'd** (1980) (674813) **5.20 Death on the Nile** (1978) (79859078) **8.00 The Last of the Mohicans** (1992) (33900) **10.00 Unforgiven** (1992) (74928078) **12.15am Stardust** (1974) (845363) **2.05 Turtle Beach** (1992) (5114788) **3.30-5.00 In the Company of Darkness** (1992) (828672)

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm Babette's Feast (1987) (25833) **8.00 Missing** (1982) (65915810) **10.05-12.00 The Rocky Horror Picture Show** (1975) (576146)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles III (1992) (83893078) **7.50 Heathcliff — The Movie** (1985): Feature-length cartoon (9788320) **9.05 The New Adventures of William Tell** Animation (7164233) **10.00 Ride with the Wind** (1993) (73504) **12.00 Greyhounds** (1993) (65146) **2.00pm Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles III** (1992): As 6am (632639) **3.45 Electric Eskimo** (1979) (5966097) **4.50 Exploits at West Poley** (1985) (1193542) **6.00 Quicksand: No Escape** (1991) (36097) **8.00 12:01** (1993) (38355097) **9.40 Interceptor** (1992) (438374) **11.15 Love and Desire** (1993) (276694) **12.50am Bloodstone: Subspecies II** (1993) (1587498) **2.20 Mo' Money** (1992) (5182160) **3.50-5.30 Cruising** (1980) (37061450)

● **For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY SPORTS
7.30am Soccer News (7703368) **7.45** WWF Challenge (630981) **8.45** Soccer News (7154233) **9.00** The Big League (20097) **11.00** Cricket: Australia v England (121436) **2.00** World Darts Championship. Live (963829) **5.00** WWF Action Zone (9875) **6.00** Soccer News (536523) **6.15** Sky Sports Classics (531078) **6.30** World of Rugby Union (9436) **7.00** World Darts, Live (592875) **10.00** Soccer News (250338) **10.15** NBA Basketball (164558) **12.15am** World of Rugby Union (220363) **12.45-1.15** World of Speed and Beauty (229634)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Step Aerobics (38504) **8.00** Skiing (81959) **10.30** Skiing (58894) **11.00** Skiing (21455) **12.30pm** Motors (12707) **1.30** Olympic Magazine (67879) **3.00** Free Climbing (28504) **4.00** Snowboarding (3875) **4.30** Skiing (52487) **5.30** News (3839) **6.00** Equestrianism (72813) **8.00** Wrestling (73542) **9.00** Boxing (56829) **11.00** Golf (35417) **12.00-12.30am** News (42301)

SKY SOAP
8.00am Loving (1483252) **8.30** Peyton Place (1482523) **9.00** As the World Turns (6557542) **10.00** Guiding Light (8739504) **11.00-12.00** Another World (8759368)

SKY TRAVEL
12.00 Discover Your World (1493639) **12.30pm** Kids Down Under (7052368) **1.00** Cruising the Globe (8753184) **1.30** Pierre Franey's Cooking in France (7051639) **2.00** American Adventurer (4668691) **2.30** Video Trips (3731813) **3.00** Discover Your World (4687726) **3.30** The Way of Life (3816558) **4.00** Cruising the Globe (3722165) **4.30** Kids Down Under (3728349) **5.00** Alaska (4682271) **5.30** Cooking in America (3815839) **6.00** Getaway — Australia (7133287) **7.00** Discover Your World (4679707) **7.30** Around the World in 30 Minutes (3729078) **8.00** Sky Travel Guide (7086252) **9.00** Australia from the Outside Looking In (7073788) **10.00** Round Trip — New Zealand South (1494368) **10.30** Dive — Pennekamp (1470788) **11.00** Cooking in America (8031900) **11.30-12.00** The Way of Life — Kenya (4942610)



Daniel Day-Lewis in *Last of the Mohicans* (Sky Movies, 8.00pm)

TLC
9.00am Successful Sugarcraft (3359417) **9.30** High Days and Other Days (4242097) **10.00** Parents Talking (8176894) **10.30** Only Human (7546233) **11.30** Right or Wrong (6848691) **12.00** The Sick Kids (3362981) **12.30pm** Cash in Hand (4246813) **1.00** High Days (9015784) **1.30** Sugarcraft (4245184) **2.00** Draw with Don (53041097) **2.15** Extra Dimensions (4974610) **3.00** Flowering Passions (6612558) **3.30-4.00** Furniture to Go (4047829)

UK GOLD
7.00am The Sullivans (6865261) **7.30** Neighbours (3815946) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (3361252) **8.30** EastEnders (3360523) **9.00** The Bill (3351875) **9.30** Colditz (6847639) **10.30** The Lotus Eaters (46532184) **11.35** The Sullivans (11954455) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (3371639) **12.30pm** Neighbours (4248271) **1.00** EastEnders (7215702) **1.30** The Bill (4247542) **2.00** Robin's Nest (8522981) **2.30** I Didn't Know You Cared (4964542) **3.00** Knots Landing (6851165) **4.00** Dynasty (6863900) **5.00** Every Second Counts (8235097) **5.35** Top of the Pops (8340894) **5.55** Terry and June (6943788) **6.30** EastEnders (4956523) **7.00** The Two Ronnies (5786146) **8.00** I Didn't Know You Cared (6519417) **8.30** Robin's Nest (6521252) **9.00** Minder (5988558) **10.00** The Bill (3372368) **10.30** Top of the Pops **11.15** Rory Bremner (4320252) **11.55** Dr Who (4780900) **12.25am** Scotch 'n' Wry (4064382) **1.00** Squadron (3858189) **2.00** Shopping

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am Best of Dropbee Time (61417) **7.00** Ratkan III (5807726) **7.15** Head to Head in 3D (3808639) **7.25** Garfield and Friends (7966233) **7.55** Saved by the Bell (8528788) **8.30** Super Mario Brothers (44982) **9.00** Zoo (9221726) **9.15** Cult Cartoons (8430900) **10.00** Swamp Thing (78969) **10.30** Round the Twist (96078) **11.00** Eek the Cat (88829) **11.30** Beakman's World (60558) **12.00** Stunt Dawgs (83558) **12.30pm** Bots Master (20523) **1.00** Babysitters Club (34829) **1.30** Degrassi Junior High (29894) **2.00** Ghostbusters (3542) **2.30** SuperDave (2165) **3.00** Tic Tac Toons (8550455) **3.15** Bobby's World (204455) **3.45** Head to Head in 3D (6715720) **4.00** The Bots Master (3417) **4.30-5.00** Saved by the Bell (5829)

NICKELODEON
7.00am Nick's Christmas Cracker (55271) **7.30** Denver the Last Dinosaur (41078) **8.00** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (42233) **8.30** Rocko's Modern Life (41504) **9.00** Nick's Christmas Pick (65184) **9.00** Nick Jr (65184) **9.30** Clarissa (91097) **10.00** Grimmy (80702) **10.30** Where on Earth is Carmen Sandiego? (61368) **11.00** Attack of the Killer Tomatoes (29233) **11.30** Ren and Stimpy (20962) **12.00** Pee-Wee (45320) **12.30pm** Galaxy High School (96813) **1.00** Doug (54542) **1.30** Alvin and the Chipmunks (94184) **2.00** Denver the Last Dinosaur (2418) **2.30** Speed Racer (5097) **3.00** Where on Earth is Carmen Sandiego? (6165) **3.30** Hey Dude! (5962) **4.00** Nick's Christmas Pick (6349) **4.30** Doug (5233) **5.00** Clarissa (7417) **6.00** Grimmy (5726) **6.30-7.00** Dracula (6807)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm Deep Probe Expeditions (6861542) **5.00** Islands (6523610) **6.00** Beyond 2000 (8143897) **6.55** Man Eaters of the Wild (7190349) **7.00** Encyclopedia Galactica (6531639) **7.30** Arthur C. Clarke's Mysterious World (4950349) **8.00** Fork in the Road (6613267) **8.30** Skybound (6529894) **9.00** Special Forces (6867726) **9.30** Those Who Dare (4233349) **10.00** Into the Unknown (5869267) **11.00** The Beer Hunter (6862271) **11.30-12.00** Life in the Wild (8172078)

BRAVO
12.00 FILM: Serious Charge (1962) (8183184) **2.00** thirtysomething (8171349) **3.00** My Three Sons (6536184) **3.30** The Beverly Hillbillies (4961455) **4.00** FILM: Father Came Too (1964) (6530900) **6.00** Death Valley Days (4987639) **6.30** I Spy (4765504) **7.30** Car 54, Where Are You? (4947875) **8.00** thirtysomething (5760962) **9.00** The Twilight Zone (6854252) **9.30** FILM: Spanish Fly (1975) (9196726) **11.30-12.00** Hogan's Heroes (8169504)

UK LIVING
6.00am Agony Hour (2606542) **7.00** Living (8204252) **8.00** The Treatment (2141691) **8.30** Women Mean Business (2140962) **9.00** Delia Smith (7601962) **9.35** Definition (6402726) **10.00** Trivia Trap (9226829) **10.30** Susan Powter (2160726) **11.00** Young and Restless (8212436) **12.00** Through the Looking Glass (1833558) **12.35pm** Kilroy (9056813) **1.30** Room for Change (7144239) **2.00** Agony Hour (9227558) **3.00** Living (7524610) **3.45** Gladrags and Glamour (17368558) **4.00** Infatuation UK (5541639) **4.30** Definition (18568436) **4.55** Masterchef (4781558) **5.30** Kate and Allie (5521875) **6.00** Material World (5528788) **6.30** Mr and Mrs (5542368) **7.00** Living (9880252) **8.00** Young and Restless (9999900) **9.00** FILM: LA Bounty (1989) (41853165) **10.40** Gladrags and Glamour (2528829) **11.00** Susan Powter (1830184) **11.30-12.00** Infatuation UK (9142813)

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00pm Tintin (4894) **5.30** Boogies Diner (5881) **6.00** African Skies (3894) **6.30** Through the Keyhole (4146) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (7558) **7.30** The Wonder Years (6558) **8.00** Snowy River (11726) **9.00** Moonlighting (91982) **10.00** Catchphrase (84287) **10.30** Tintin (97707) **11.00** Lou Grant (48078) **12.00** Rhoda (73295) **12.30pm** Big Brother Jake (53943) **1.00** GP (99943) **1.30** Trivial Pursuit (15479) **2.00** Moonlighting (30289) **3.00** Lou Grant (13568) **4.00** Rhoda (47127) **4.30-5.00** Big Brother Jake (87108)

MTV
5.00am Awake on the Wildside (39565) **6.30** The Grind (10707) **7.00** Awake on the Wildside (34900) **8.00** VJ Ingo (305392) **11.00** Soul (52271) **12.00** Greatest Hits (18788) **1.00pm** The 1994 MTV Movie Awards (15252) **3.00** Sports (1707) **3.30** Coca-Cola Report (5460833) **3.45** Cinematic (1872898) **4.00** News at Night (6633097) **4.15** 3 From 1 (6616320) **4.30** Dial MTV (7287) **5.00** Music Non-Stop (28349) **6.30** Live! (6504) **7.00** Greatest Hits (75356) **8.00** The Real World 2 (4271) **9.00** The Worst of Most Wanted (78523) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (19417) **10.00** Coca-Cola Report (837165) **10.15** Cinematic (825320) **10.30** News at Night (685252) **10.45** 3 from 1 (680707) **11.00** The End? (30788) **1.00am** Soul (39540) **2.00** The Grind (25905) **2.30** Night Videos (244721)

VH-1
7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (8752455) **9.00** Café (8134962) **12.00** The Bridge (3194146) **1.30pm** Ten of the Best (9544894) **2.30** Heart and Soul (9232962) **3.30** Into the Music (4680621) **6.00** Prime-Cuts (7039417) **7.00** VH-1 for You: Xmas Special (7079962) **8.00** Rock (7088610) **9.00** Ten of the Best (7075145) **10.00** The Bridge (8537788) **11.30** Today's Top Five (4951368) **12.00** The Nightfly (9078721) **2.00am** Ten of the Best (4374498) **3.00-7.00** Dawn Patrol

CMT EUROPE
Country music from 6am to 7pm incl **5.00** Saturday Nite Dance Ranch **6.00** Big Ticket

TV ASIA
6.00am Persian Dawn (81271) **7.00** Asian Morning (11120) **8.30** Bunyaad (44926) **9.00** Pakistani FILM: Thon Si Bewafa (781078) **12.00** Ghar (36184) **1.00pm** Kashkool (12504) **2.00** Hindi FILM: Khoob Surat (678694) **5.00** TVA and You (1320) **5.30-6.00** Bunyaad (2897) **7.00** GGG (8146) **7.30** Dhum Dhamaka (6962) **8.00** News (7894) **8.30** Pakistan Business Report (9629) **9.00** Hindi FILM: Hum (421813) **12.00** Asian Morning (538455) **1.35am** Sight and Sound

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT
Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.
Theme: Spotlight on Ava Gardner
7.00pm The Little Hut (1957) (52744610) **8.40 The Angel Wore Red** (1960) (80708829) **10.30 The Hucksters** (1947) (35924691) **12.35am Lone Star** (1952) (75174653) **2.20-5.00 HM Pulham, Esq** (1940) (13517382)

CNN/QVC
CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel

SPORTS QUOTES 34
THE BEST AND WORST SAYINGS OF THE YEAR

SPORT

RACING 36
MORE CHELTENHAM FAVOURITES FALL FROM GRACE

THURSDAY DECEMBER 29 1994

England compound felony of poor display with delaying tactics

Boon takes charge of slow torture

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT IN MELBOURNE

IT WAS shortly after 2pm yesterday when the abrupt weather shift, peculiar to these parts and known, with quaint understatement, as a "cool change", struck the city like a trainee typhoon. In a single minute, the wind source turned from the desert to the ocean and the temperature inside the Melbourne Cricket Ground dropped by 20°C.

A little under two hours later, when Mark Taylor declared the Australia second innings with a lead of 387 and four sessions of this second Test remaining, the accompaniment was less dramatic but the effect very similar. The day was never the same again. For four hours, there had scarcely been a ball that threatened to take a wicket. In the ensuing hour, there was scarcely one that did not.

England lost their top four batsmen for 43 in 15 overs while Shane Warne, their nemesis in more normal times, was no more than a fielding spectator. Now, as a variation on a theme, England were collapsing against swing.

Damien Fleming, playing his first Test in Australia on his home ground, bowled more testing balls in his first two overs than he had throughout the first innings. His third had Graham Gooch caught behind and, in his next over, Graeme Hick was squared up as a perfect outswinger rattled into his stumps.

Graham Thorpe batted neurotically, confusing positive thought with the red mists of aggression. He might have been out twice in his first four balls, but fell to a firm-footed drive to give Craig McDermott his 250th Test wicket. When Michael Atherton followed, caught behind off what he believed to be his pad, there briefly loomed the mortifying possibility that England could be bowled out inside a single session.

Mike Gatting and Steven Rhodes summoned the spirit to defy this particular indignity, but supreme optimism was required to believe that anything other than another spectacular change of weather could save England.

Ranting about the ineptitude of the England players is now as shallow a reaction from without as complaining about the umpiring would be from within. Neither response begins to address the depths to which the English game has declined or the means of rebuilding it.

Perhaps, however, only the tongue-tying presence of the international code of conduct precluded something more outspoken from the England manager, Keith Fletcher, than his cryptic: "I don't think we have had too much of the rub of the green in this game. We haven't had any, in fact."

Like his players, Fletcher is entitled to believe that the umpiring has been unkind. Four questionable decisions have been given against them, three by the independent umpire, Steve Bucknor. Yesterday, for the second time in the match, Atherton left the crease with a reluctance that made his feelings of innocence plain.

Equally, however, if the code of conduct was to be firmly interpreted by the match referee, John Reid, Atherton would be facing a fine when the game is over. Not for dissent, for there was none of consequence, but for presiding over one of the most shameless displays of time wasting in which I have ever seen an England team indulge.

The first rule in the code states: "The captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the spirit of the game as well as within the laws." For motives that were obvious and understood, but must nevertheless be ruled unacceptable, Atherton ignored the entreaty and did his best to bring proceedings to a grinding halt.

That England bowled a meagre 54 overs in four hours tells only half the story. No fewer than 21 of these were bowled by Philip Tufnell, who finds it quite exacting, with his short run-up, to stretch out an over to five minutes or more. All manner of devices were used to to absorb time and the spectators jeered their disapproval at the unedifying spectacle. The umpires did little other than brandish their wrist-watches, however, and, as the over-rate requirement of 15 an hour was met, once the concessions for wickets, drinks breaks and sundry interruptions were accounted for, England will probably escape penalties. If so, the code of conduct might as well be torn up and the refereeing system abolished.

Consolations were scarce, but England narrowly failed to bowl Michael Bevan into form — he spent a painful 190 minutes making 35 — and Darren Gough dismissed Warne with a leg break. That apart, David Boon made the century that had looked likely from the moment he came in. Technically admirable but visually featureless, this was his twentieth Test century and his first at Melbourne. Something even greater was required if England were not to be beaten today.

Crowe's landmark, page 37

REBECCA NADEN



Atherton is aghast and the Australians ecstatic as the umpire, Bucknor, gives the England captain out, caught at the wicket off McDermott, yesterday

Distress signals spark air search for yacht

BY BARRY PICKTHALL

ISABELLE AUTISSIER, the French yachtswoman dismasted in the Southern Ocean while leading the BOC Challenge solo round-the-world race, was at the centre of another drama yesterday when rescue services picked up emergency signals from two satellite beacons on her 60-foot yacht at 05:45GMT.

The beacons pinpointed Autissier's yacht 920 miles south-southeast of Adelaide and, after all efforts to contact her by satellite messaging and radio failed, an Australian Air Force Hercules search-and-rescue plane equipped with life-rafts, radios and survival gear began searching the area at first light (21:00GMT).

Ominously, the continuing signals from Autissier's beacons showed no significant drift, suggesting that they had broken away from the yacht. The plane has the capability to search a wide area.

Autissier, 38, from La Rochelle, had built up a 5½-day lead during the first stage of the race, from Charleston to Cape Town. However, on December 2, five days after leaving the Cape on the second, 7,000-mile stage to Sydney, her yacht was dismasted some 1,200 miles into the Southern Ocean. She successfully set up a jury rig and continued to the Kerguelen Islands, where French scientists helped her to fit a temporary mast. Since then, however, the weather has deteriorated and Autissier reported two knock-downs last week.

Her nearest fellow competitor — the British yachtsman, Nigel Rowe — was 280 miles to the northeast yesterday, but experiencing a 60-knot storm that had broken the rudder and self-steering on his yacht. Harry Mitchell, the 70-year-old pensioner from Portsmouth who is bringing up the rear of the fleet, was in no better position to help.

"I'm in the middle of a severe 60-knot storm," Mitchell told race officials. "I have lost all the blades on the wind generator and am worried I may lose my satellite positioning antenna. The barometer is 960 millibars, the seas are unbelievable and dangerous. The conditions are the worst I have ever experienced. I hope I come through."

Illingworth warns of changes

AS AUSTRALIA moved to the brink of victory in the second Test and a 2-0 lead in the Ashes series, Raymond Illingworth, the chairman of selectors, who enjoys a reputation for plain speaking, yesterday made known his dissatisfaction with England's performance.

"We've got to turn it around pretty bloody quick now or it will finish in a shambles," Illingworth said. With three Tests to play, there is still time for England to regain some pride even if the Ashes once again look beyond their reach, but Illingworth made it clear that there will be a price to pay before next season if this winter's campaign keeps going from bad to worse: "You try to be loyal to players, but you've got to make changes if you keep losing. It's daft not to.

"We were playing some good cricket at the end of the summer and it's very disappointing to get off to the start we have."

Illingworth was pleased with the team's performance on Christmas Eve and claimed England's attitude had been better than in the Brisbane Test, but he was scathing about shortcomings in the field: "We haven't been right from the start. In fact, we have been unprofessional.

"I think the fielding is the root cause of our problems. If that's bad, the bowlers take the hump and everything goes downhill. There's no excuse for bad fielding. That's down to a lack of concentration and effort. All the players here are fit enough to field pretty well."

FOURTH DAY SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 279 (S R Waugh 94 not out, M E Waugh 71; D Gough 4 for 60)

Second Innings

*M A Taylor lbw b Gough	19
	(81min, 64 balls, 1 four)
M J Slater st Rhodes b Tufnell	44
	(121min, 74 balls, 5 fours)
D C Boon lbw b DeFreitas	131
	(378min, 277 balls, 14 fours)
M E Waugh c and b Gough	29
	(128min, 82 balls, 1 four)
M G Bevan c sub (J P Crawley) b Tufnell	35
	(189min, 134 balls, 1 four)
S R Waugh not out	26
	(93min, 73 balls)
†I A Healy c Thorpe b Tufnell	17
	(62min, 38 balls, 1 four)
S K Warne c DeFreitas b Gough	0
	(3min, 2 balls)
C J McDermott not out	2
	(6min, 7 balls)
Extras (b 1, lb 9, w 1, nb 6)	17
Total (7 wkts dec, 124 overs, 533min)	320

T B A May and D W Fleming did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-61 (Slater 35), 2-81 (Boon 10), 3-157 (Boon 55), 4-269 (Boon 127), 5-275 (S R Waugh 2), 6-316 (S R Waugh 24), 7-317 (S R Waugh 25).

BOWLING: Malcolm 22-3-86-0 (nb 3, w 1; 9-2-28-0, 3-0-16-0, 3-0-12-0, 7-1-30-0); DeFreitas 26-2-70-1 (nb 2; 4-0-18-0, 6-1-16-0, 3-1-7-0, 6-0-15-0, 7-0-14-1); Tufnell 48-8-90-3 (nb 2; 23-5-37-1, 4-1-4-0, 8-1-22-0, 13-1-27-2), Gough 25-6-59-3 (7-2-21-1, 7-1-12-1, 6-3-10-0, 5-0-16-1), Hick 3-2-5-0 (2-1-5-0, 1-1-0-0)

ENGLAND: First Innings 212 (G P Thorpe 51, S K Warne 6 for 64)

Second Innings

G A Gooch c Healy b Fleming	2
	(9mn, 8 balls)
*M A Atherton c Healy b McDermott	25
	(73min, 43 balls, 4 fours)
G A Hick b Fleming	2
	(9min, 6 balls)
G P Thorpe c Healy b McDermott	9
	(22min, 20 balls, 1 four)
M W Gatting not out	23
	(85min, 70 balls, 2 fours)
†S J Rhodes not out	13
	(53min, 36 balls)
Extras (b 2, nb 3)	5
Total (4 wkts, 30 overs, 128min)	79

A J Stewart, P A J DeFreitas, D Gough, D E Malcolm and P C R Tufnell to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3 (Atherton 1), 2-10 (Atherton 5), 3-23 (Atherton 9), 4-43 (Gatting 1).

BOWLING: McDermott 10-2-32-2 (nb 3; one spell); Fleming 9-1-24-2 (6-1-15-2, 3-0-9-0); Warne 7-1-13-0 (5-1-11-0, 2-0-2-0); May 4-1-8-0 (one spell).

Umpires: S A Bucknor (West Indies) and S G Randell (Australia).
TV replay umpire: W P Sheahan.
Match referee: J R Reid (New Zealand).
PREVIOUS MATCH: First Test (Brisbane): Australia won by 184 runs.
MATCHES TO COME: Third Test: Sydney (January 1-5). Fourth Test: Adelaide (January 26-30). Fifth Test: Perth (February 3-7).

☐ *Compiled by Bill Frindall*

Ipswich turn to Burley in struggle for survival

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

IPSWICH Town, who are bottom of the FA Carling Premiership, yesterday appointed George Burley as their manager in succession to John Lyall. The announcement came the day before the 21st anniversary of Burley's debut for the club, against Manchester United, when he had to mark George Best. Paul Goddard, who has been caretaker-manager, was appointed first team coach.

John Kerr, the chairman, said: "George has made a name for himself after coaching and managing in Scotland. We know we have appointed the man who wanted the job most. His determination and the clear view of what he can do for this club shone through at his interviews."

Burley, who made 500 appearances for Ipswich after joining them as a youth team player in 1971, said: "It is a dream come true for me. Since the day I left Ipswich, I've been looking to get into the coaching and managing side of the game. Ipswich has always been the club for me, as they brought me up as a person and a player. It is fabulous to think I'm now in charge.

"It is a tough job, but my heart is here, so that makes it easier. When I was here under Bobby Robson, Ipswich were the envy of Britain and, when they got into Europe, we were envied there too. I was brought up under good standards and I want to get back to those dream years. We've got lots of good players and I hope to get the best out of them.

"In my five or six years as a manager and coach, I have not had money to spend, so I'm used to making do with the players available. There's no easy route to success, but I believe in hard work and it's also important to work together. We need players who want to do it for the club. I was always first onto the training pitch and last off and that is what I believe in. I want to keep Ipswich's tradition going."

Ipswich still have to agree terms of compensation with Colchester United, the Endsleigh Insurance League third division club, where Burley had been manager until his resignation on Christmas Eve.

Alan Smith's attack on the fixture planners after Crystal Palace played two matches in 24 hours over Christmas was yesterday met with "astonishment" by the FA Premier League. After the goalless draw at Tottenham Hotspur, Smith, the Palace manager, said: "Why we have played two games on the trot is beyond me.

"People cannot afford to lay out the best part of £50 for two games on successive days. It's like going to watch *Phantom of the Opera* and having to watch 11 stand-ins."

Yesterday, Mike Lee, a Premier League spokesman, said: "Frankly, we are astonished by Mr Smith's remarks. The Christmas and New Year period is a traditionally busy time for everyone involved in football. There is nothing unusual in this year's fixtures."

☐ Last night's Premiership match between Blackburn Rovers and Leeds United and the third division game between Wigan Athletic and Preston North End were both postponed because of waterlogged pitches at Ewood Park and Springfield Park.

Argentina's new look, page 37
Otto strikes, page 38

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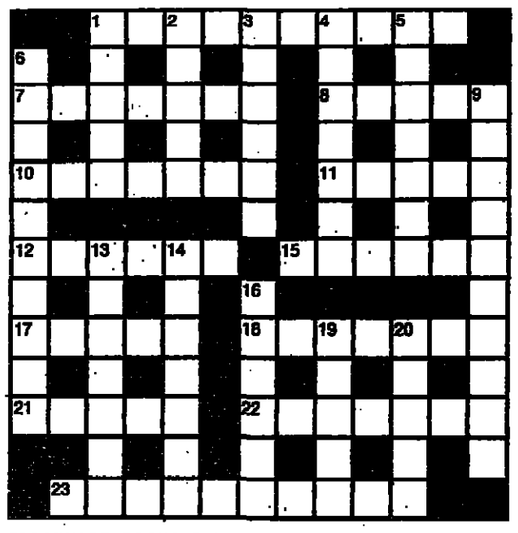
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TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 356

ACROSS

1 Essential requirement (4,3,3)
7 Clothes ready for baby (7)
8 — Estate, Commons: — World, poor countries (5)
10 Great skill, valour (7)
11 Ceramic tableware (5)
12 Supple, nimble (6)
15 Calvin's city (6)
17 Apart, uninvolved (5)
18 Contrary to law (7)
21 Mark over Spanish *n* (5)
22 Choice of vocabulary, speaking style (7)
23 One no longer up to the job (6,4)

DOWN

1 Authority to decide, assertion (3-2)
2 Saltpetre (5)
3 Mildly nauseous (6)
4 Newspaper essay (7)
5 Body opening (7)
6 Reciprocal favours between friends (3,4,3)
9 Fail in search (4,1,5)
13 Aerodynamic bar on plane, car (7)
14 Away from busiest time (3-4)
16 Secreted (6)
19 Wealth (facetious), often filthy (5)
20 Tedious task; abrade, polish (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 355

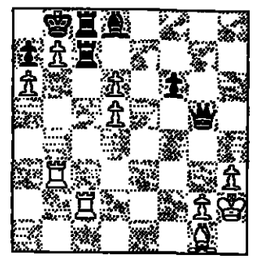
ACROSS: 8 Evasive 9 Adult 10 Stepchild 11 Lop 12 Negus 14 Moisten 15 Conifer 17 Hunch 19 Ram 20 Imbroglio 22 Match 23 Lyrical

DOWN: 1 Reason 2 Pane 3 Pieces of eight 4 Tedium 5 Sandwich-board 6 Bulletin 7 Step in 13 Gunsmith 15 Chrome 16 Rubble 18 Hoop-la 21 Lick

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Alekhine - Gofmeister, Petrograd 1917. In spite of the pawn avalanche facing Black, he must have been quite optimistic due to his extra queen. How did Alekhine swiftly disillusion him?



Solution, page 38
Raymond Keene, page 6

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

LUNGE
a. A skin growth
b. A type of fungus
c. A large freshwater fish

INVERTOR
a. An argumentative person
b. A muscle turning parts inwards
c. Apparatus to convert current

MODENA
a. Like a model
b. A stocky pigeon
c. An inventor

NUPPENCE
a. No money
b. The frequency of marriage
c. A nuclear reactor

Answers on page 38

هكذا من الأصل